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Dan's Talks Podcast
Dan Rattiner Interviews
Hugh King, Historian,
School Teacher & Town Crier

Art by Megan Euell

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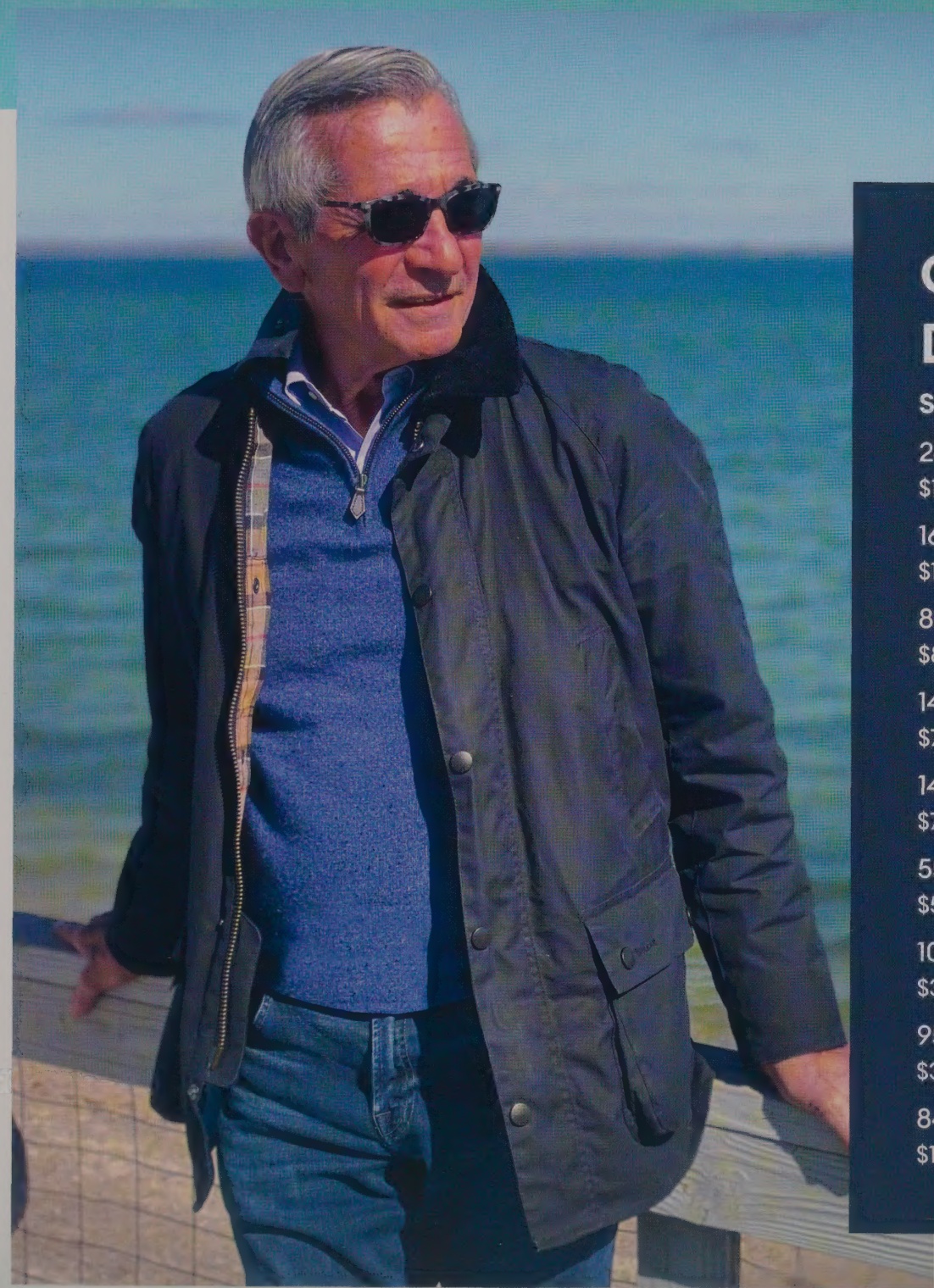

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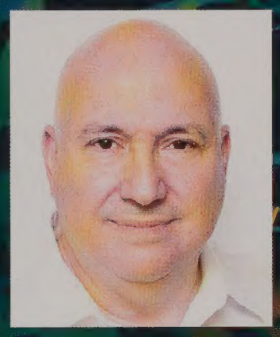

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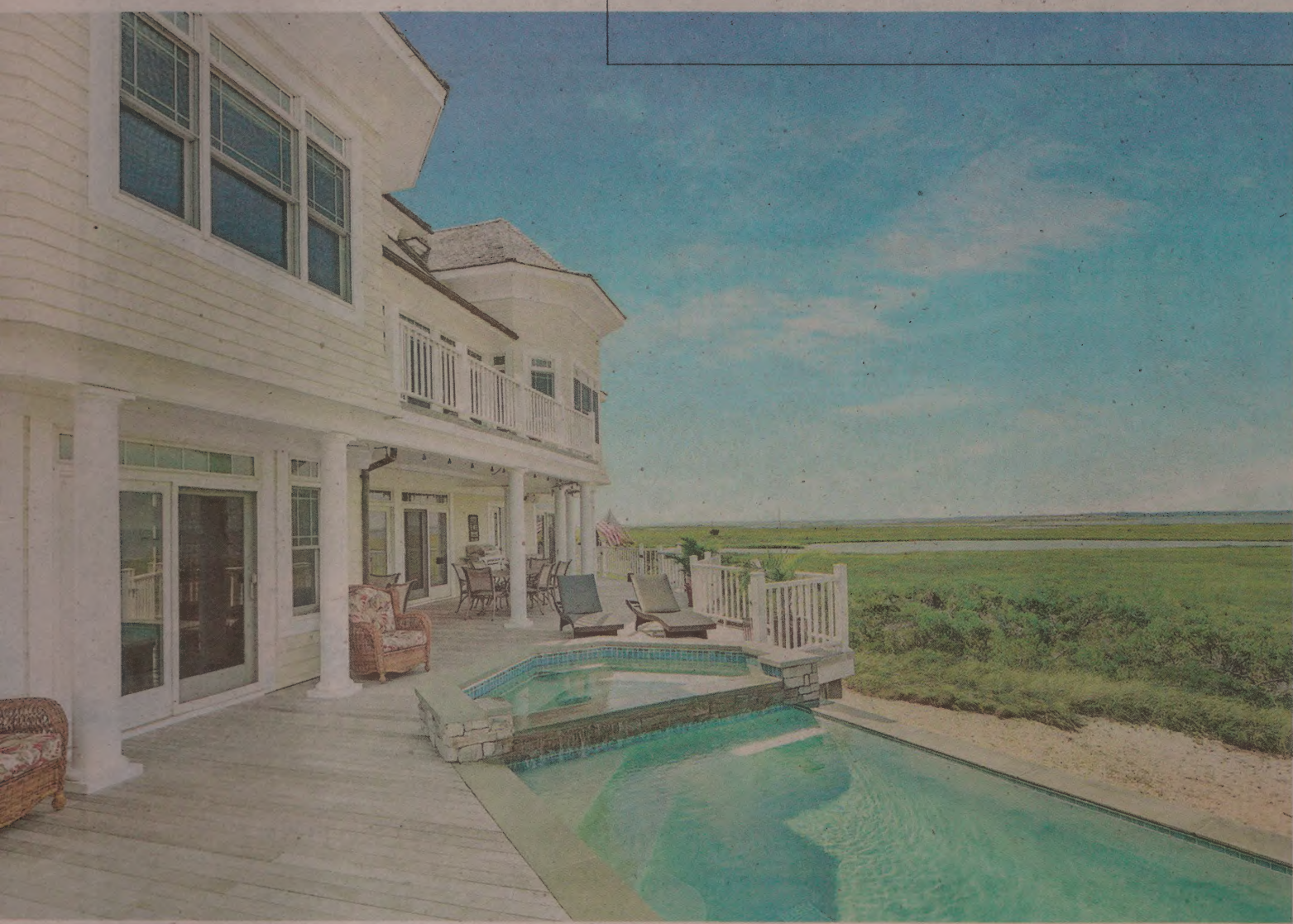

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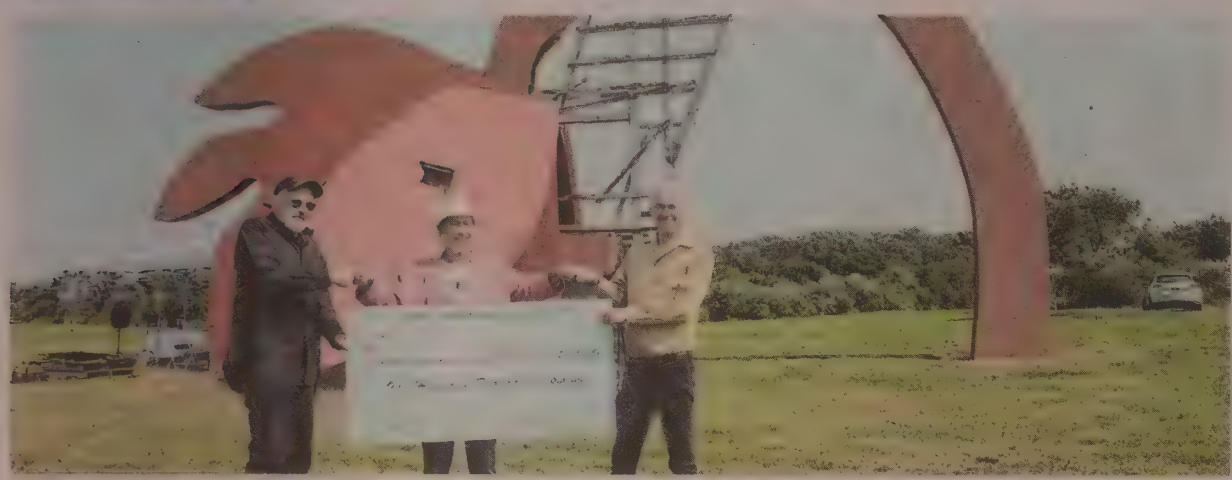

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Dan's Talks: Hosted by Dan Rattiner
Podcast Guest: Hugh King, historian, school teacher and town crier

Episode 73: This week on the "Dan's Talks" podcast, Dan speaks with Hugh King, East Hampton's well-respected historian, town crier and avid baseball fan. He taught at Springs School for 31 years and is currently the Director of Home Sweet Home Museum. He appeared in numerous plays at Guild Hall's John Drew theater from 1963–1999.

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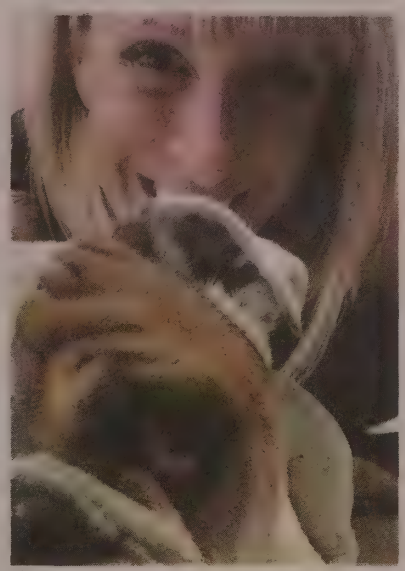

Leslie Granger, Bideawee CEO

OFF THE LEASH *with* LESLIE

Un-fur-gettable anecdotes, adventures, and a-ha moments from a pet rescue pro!

We all have that one friend who is always looking for the perfect match, but no one is ever just right. Too tall, too short, dark-haired, light-haired, whatever it might be. But, common interests and complementing personalities are more important in the long run of a relationship than just immediate physical attraction—just ask a matchmaker! And sometimes….that's exactly what I fancy myself! Not for people – but for people AND pets. Looking for a pet to adopt or foster is a lot like dating—people can fall into these same traps. They often decide, even before meeting the animals, the type of breed or size of animal that they're looking for, when they should be focusing on a pet with the right temperament to fit their lifestyle. Just because you live in a tiny apartment or a sprawling mansion, doesn't mean your dog's size needs to correlate! I promise you, size doesn't matter….. pet personality is where it's at!

Over the years, I've seen a few animals, who despite their charms, have struggled to find permanent homes. So, this week, I decided to "flip the script" on matchmaking and let our animals tell YOU what they are looking for. Think of it as Sadie Hawkins day, but for pets.

JP (Handsome 8-year-old canine male from a military family.)– ISO male or female who likes to keep his fur short and well groomed. Though my puppy days are behind me, I'm still open to new friends and new adventures. A potential owner must be physically fit enough for walks of any length (at my discretion), and somewhat of a whiz in the kitchen, as I'm a bit of a foodie. I enjoy cuddles and belly rubs as much as the next hound, but don't expect me to open up right away; I am seeking a real connection. My ideal match would be generous and completely lactose intolerant, so that I would have the option of eating any of your unwanted cheese, which is my favorite snack! I'm more than willing to explore any of your passions and interests, as long as I'm allowed equal time to survey the great outdoors for all its sights, sounds, and most importantly – smells!

Clarabelle – (Active single feline mom seeks permanent living situation.)- I'm an empty-nester, with all my kids now off on their own. Open to sharing space with another feline roommate, as long as we are able to maintain our own personal space. I relish my alone time so I usually choose solo activities, but also a big fan of laser sports. Will occasionally entertain the idea of joining roommates for family dinner. Ideal home would have plenty of natural sunlight and high perches for surveying my new Queendom. When not lazing in a warm sunspot, I spend my time working out with (preferably) limited human observation. I just don't feel myself with people watching my every move. Social events don't come naturally to me, but I'm always working towards coming out of my shell. (Complimenting me on my Bengal stripes never hurts.)

Could JP or Clarabelle be your match? Did their personal ad flutter your heart? A love match could just be a first date away at Bideawee….

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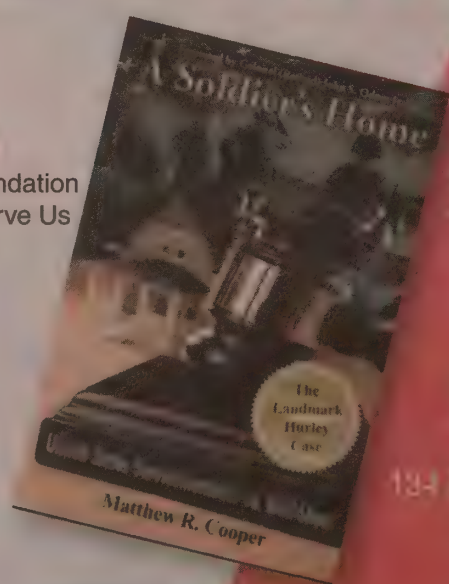

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BY FLO ANTHONY

Former CNN host **Chris Cuomo** and his wife **Christina Cuomo** were spotted in the Hamptons going out for coffee and running errands on March 20, days after the ex-anchorman filed his first motion demanding $25 million in severance pay from CNN, reports the *Daily Mail*. As South o' the Highway reported last week, Cuomo is accusing CNN and his colleagues of mounting a smear campaign against him and of violating his contract. Cuomo looked casual as he drove his black Ford F-150 and stepped out to deliver some packages.

Read more SOUTH O' THE HIGHWAY at DansPapers.com

Bridgehampton resident **Bethenny Frankel** and fiancé **Paul Bernon** don't have plans to get married anytime soon. In an interview with *Entertainment Tonight*, the former *Real Housewives of New York City* cast member said, "We are happy with where we are. We're honestly just so happy that we're being in the moment," adding, "I mean, you know, I'm not a spring chicken, so it's not like we're working." The Skinnygirl food and drink mogul says she wants a small wedding. Frankel began dating the movie producer in 2018 after they met on a dating app. They have been engaged since March 2021. Frankel shares her daughter, 11-year-old Bryn, with her ex-husband **Jason Hoppy**.

Alec Baldwin is heading back to work as an actor in Italy following the fatal *Rust* accident last October, according to two Italian production companies. *Variety* reports Italy's Minerva Pictures and **Andrea Iervolino** and **Monika Bacardi**'s ILBE have revealed that both the Amagansett resident and his brother **Daniel Baldwin** have been cast in two films they are jointly producing, which will soon shoot in Rome.

Although **Ina and Jeffrey Garten** have been happily married for 43 years, the couple's work schedule caused them to spend weekdays away from each other and weekends together. Jeffrey would commute to Connecticut to teach at Yale, while Ina would stay at their home in East Hampton, writing her cookbooks and shooting her television shows, according to *People*. However, the COVID-19 pandemic put the world on pause in 2020, causing Ina and Jeffrey to be together 24/7. In a new interview to celebrate her upcoming Discovery+ show *Be My Guest*, the Barefoot Contessa, told *People*, "One of the things we learned during the pandemic is how wonderful it is to have seven days of the week together. It's just incredible." While Jeffrey still goes to the office in Connecticut, these days he also works from the office building the Gartens own in East Hampton while Ina continues her cooking at home.

Hamptons Bay resident and legal eagle **Arthur Aidala** has launched his new radio show *The Power Hour* on AM 970 The Answer. His first guests have included NYC Mayor **Eric Adams**' chief of staff **Frank Carone**, **Megyn Kelly** and East Hampton's own **Andy Sabin**, founder of the South Fork Natural History Museum.

Southampton resident **Peter Thomas Roth** has returned from judging the Miss World Contest in Puerto Rico. The show had originally been canceled because of COVID scares. Part of Roth's job at the pageant was to ask the beautiful contestants questions. He also helped present the crown to the winner, Miss Poland, Karolina Bielawska, and runner-up, Miss USA, **Shree Saini**. Roth

DAVID CROTTY/PATRICKMCMULLAN.COM

INA GARTEN, JEFFREY GARTEN

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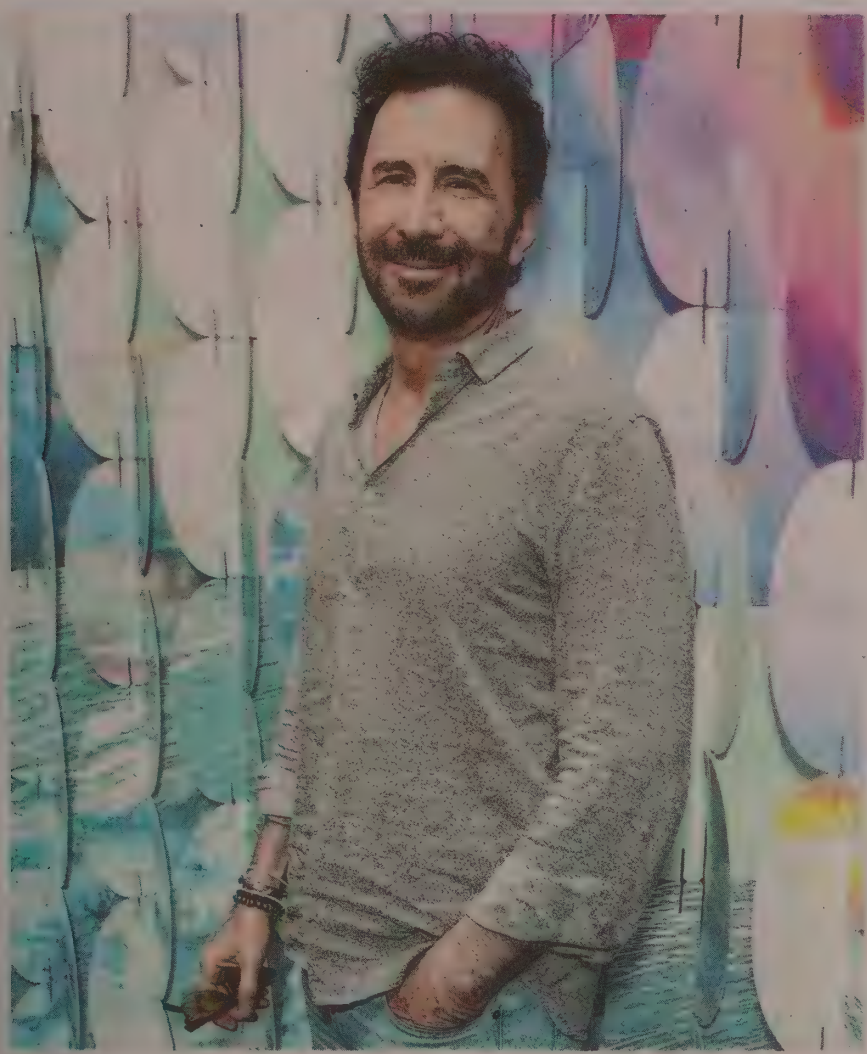
SOUTH *o' the* HIGHWAY

& NORTH TOO...



SEAN ZANNI/PATRICKMCMULLAN.COM

PETER THOMAS ROTH

was surprised when another man approached the judges table wearing the exact same Tom Ford dinner jacket that he had on. His double turned out to be **Roberto Pickering**, a former U.S. Marine Corps sniper with 37 confirmed kills. One wag whispered to one of the contestants, "There's the killer and the lady killer."

We Hear ...

In his new book, *Pillow Talk: What's Wrong with My Sewing*, **Craig Conover** reveals he and best friend **Austen Kroll** spent months repairing their friendship after Kroll stirred up drama on *Summer House* and feuded with Conover's girlfriend, **Paige DeSorbo**. Conover exclusively told *Page Six*, "Him and I didn't speak for two months after his visit to that house." The book hit stores on March 29.

Southampton's **Isabelle Bscher** celebrated the opening of her *20th Century Masters* exhibition at Galerie Gmurzynska on Manhattan's Upper East Side. The show features works by Christo, who famously created the orange gates at Central Park, as well as Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró and New York sculptor Louise Nevelson. The exhibition runs through spring.

Read more SOUTH O' THE HIGHWAY at DansPapers.com

Sightings ...

Mariska Hargitay of East Hampton and **Peter Scanavino** on the set of *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* in Manhattan on March 23.

Southampton *Successful Philanthropy* talk show host **Jean Shafiroff** with **Lois Pope** and **Dr. Robin Ganzert** at the American Humane Escape from Extinction Brunch at the Brazilian Court Hotel in Palm Beach.

MICHAEL OSTUNI/PATRICKMCMULLAN.COM

ISABELLE BSCHER

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PAGE 27

60th Annual Montauk St. Patrick's Day Parade

The 60th annual Montauk St. Patrick's Day Parade returned this year, drawing a crowd of thousands who celebrated the time-honored tradition with music, costumes and lots of Irish spirit and smiles. Organized by the Montauk Friends of Erin, the grand marshal was Marilyn Behan, a cherished Montauk resident for over 50 years and the former executive director of the Chamber of Commerce.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN MEINKEN

Grand Marshal Marilyn Behan

HAVE an EVENT for PAGE 27?

Email the details to alagreca@danspapers.com

The Church Presents 'Empire of Water' Exhibition

The Church in Sag Harbor held an opening reception for its spring exhibtion, *Empire of Water* on March 26. The show brings together established and emerging artists in the area with artists from across the globe; it includes 47 artworks in a variety of mediums that represent and use the theme of water in a myriad of ways. The exhibition will be on view through May 30. *thechurchsagharbor.org*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LISA TAMBURINI

Eric Fischl, April Gornik, Harris Yulin

Lynn Sonberg, Roger Cooper

Steve Miller

Sarah Turnbull, John Turnbull

Michele Cohen, Marty Cohen

Lautaro Cuttica, Isadora Capraro

Missy Hargraves, Christina Haag

Andrea Grover, Amy Irwin

Melanie Crader, Dorothy Frankel, Colin Bertran

Bastienne Schmidt, Katya Wolosoff

Elise Goodheart, Linda Alpern, Blair Seagram

Nancy Miller, Paton Miller

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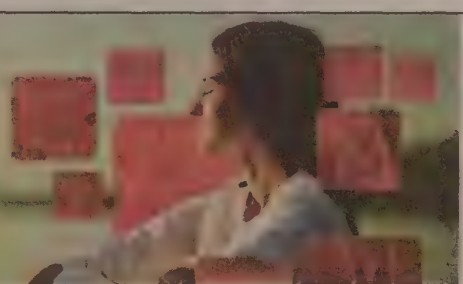


Stony Brook
Southampton Hospital

stonybrookmedicine.edu/locations

Schneps Media Power Women of Manhattan

Schneps Media presented its Power Women of Manhattan event on March 24 honoring fearless, dynamic, accomplished women. Held at Bryant Park Grill, the evening was an extraordinary display of women supporting women. Hamptonite Rosanna Scotto, co-anchor of Fox 5's *Good Day NY*, talked about the honor the next day on air and featured event footage and an interview with Vicki Schneps, president of Schneps Media, the parent company of *Dan's Papers*. New York State Attorney General Letitia James and State Assembly Member and Hamptonite Rebecca Seawright were among the illustrious honorees. All 100% of the evening's raffle proceeds went to **Urban Resource Institute**, which provides shelter and services to domestic violence survivors and homeless families in more than 20 sites across NYC.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SHANTÉ DICKSON, NANCY ADLER, CORAZON AGUIRRE

Rosanna Scotto, co-anchor of WNYW Fox 5 "Good Day NY"

NY State Attorney General Letitia James

Suri Kasirer, President of Kasirer LLC, Vicki Schneps, President of Schneps Media

Danielle FASHION PIC OF THE WEEK

WEARABLE ART!

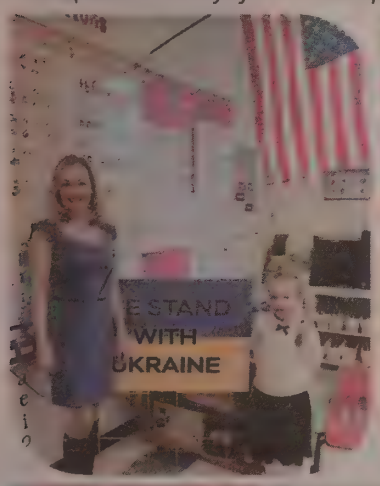
Seen at: Parrish Art Museum Student Exhibition

What we love: This one of a kind, colorful outfit!

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM KOCHIE

Southampton School Support for Ukraine

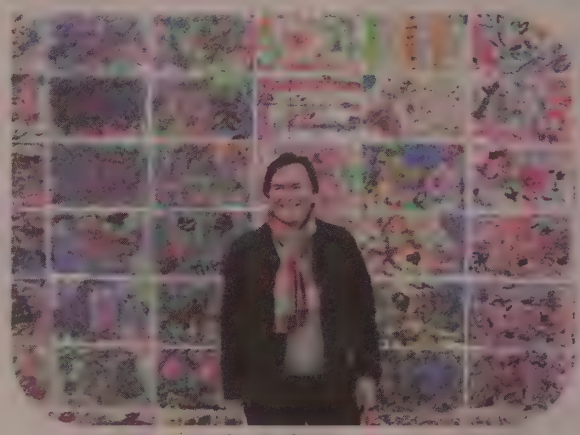
Southampton Elementary School kindergartners created colorful artwork to decorate donation boxes for a collection drive to help Ukraine. The drive is being sponsored by the Southampton Elementary School Opening Act Rotary Club in collaboration with Southampton resident and parent Natalie Massa and her nonprofit dedicated to the cause. *(Photos courtesy of the Southampton Union Free School District)*



Parrish Museum Annual Student Exhibition

The Parrish Art Museum's annual *Student Exhibition*, a 65-year tradition featuring the work of more than 600 young artists in a variety of media, is currently running at the museum. The show demonstrates the high level of creativity and accomplishment achieved in regional schools on the East End and includes a collaborative mural created by 250 students on site with artist-in-residence Eric Dever. The exhibition runs through April 24.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOM KOCHIE



Eric Dever in front of collaborative mural

Cecilia Lockel

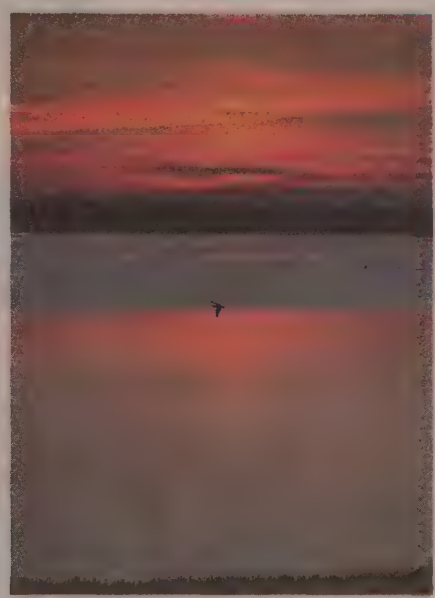
Jordon Burton

Hayground Teachers and students in wearable sculptures

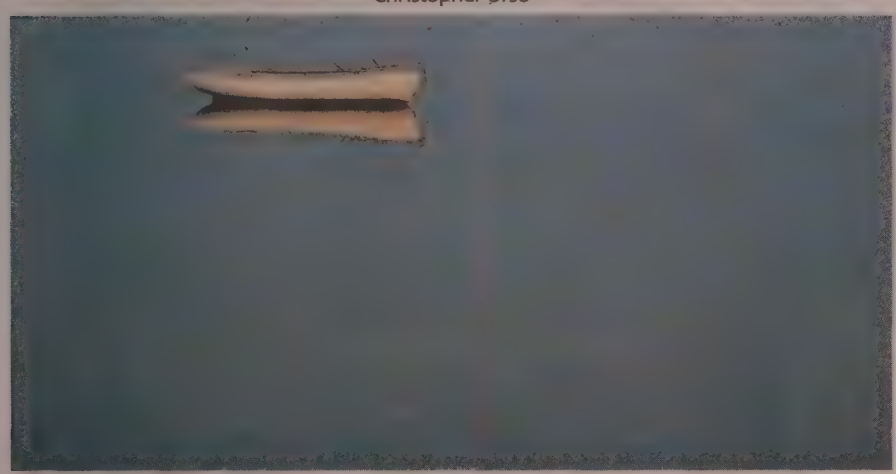
'Season of Love' PHOTO CONTEST RUNNERS-UP

Our "Season of Love" photo contest, which asked photographers to send us photos of who/what they love on the East End, was popular! Here are some more Runners-Up from the 133 submissions to that contest. Our current contest is "Signs of Spring" and you have until March 31 at noon to submit (see Contest Rules and How to Submit on this page). Who knows, you could win our monthly contest ($100 gift certificate to Calissa restaurant) and your work could end up on these pages — or on the cover of *Dan's Papers* if you win our grand prize! But you have to commit to submit (up to five images and please label each photo submission with your name). Thanks to our *Dan's Papers* readers and photographers for sharing your talents with us. Happy spring!

Christopher Urso

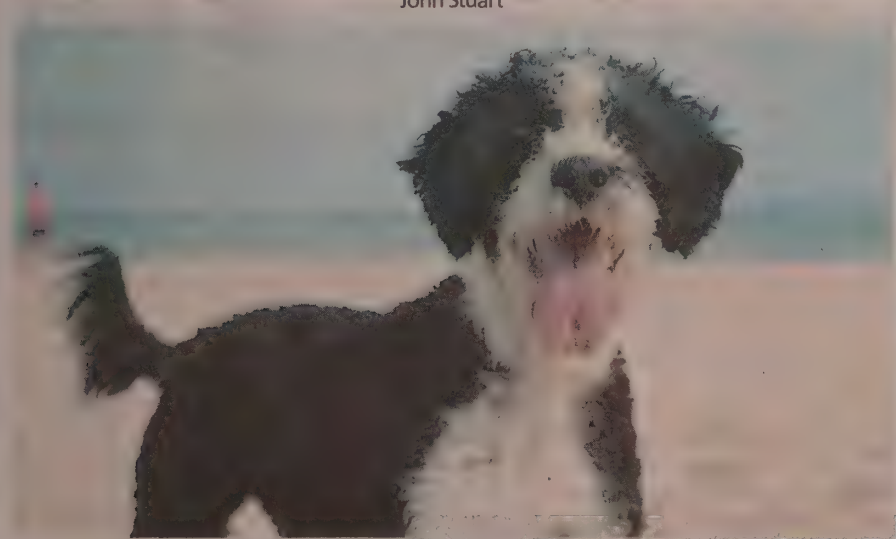


Alison Wesnofske



John Stuart

Marianne McKeon



John Stuart

Benay Ostrager

ENTER OUR MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST!

WINNERS RECEIVE $100 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO CALISSA

DAN'S PHOTO CONTEST RULES ...

what you need to know

- The contest is open to amateur and professional Photographers
- You can submit up to five preferably high-res photos per theme (no paintings, digital illustrations, etc.).
- All photos must also be taken on the East End (Hamptons, North Fork and Shelter Island) and submitted by the photographer who took them.
- You must submit photos to alagreca@danspapers.com with the subject: **"SIGNS OF SPRING PHOTO CONTEST" by Thursday March 31 at noon** to be considered in the contest.
- The winner will be announced in the following issue, so no late submissions will be accepted. Select runners-up will run in subsequent issues.
- The winning photograph receives a $100 gift certificate to the fabulous Calissa restaurant in Water Mill and a chance to grace our cover with a photograph in the new year!
- Please include a little info about yourself as well as the photo (title, location, subject, etc.) and cut/paste the following written release statement with your submission:
  By entering this contest and submitting photos, I acknowledge that Dan's Papers (Schneps Media) is granted permission to post and print the attached images and their likeness with relation to the photo contest in print, online and on our social media.

WE'RE SEEKING FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Contact **Angela LaGreca**, Photo Editor
Email: **alagreca@danspapers.com**

THE 'SIGNS OF SPRING' PHOTO CONTEST IS NOW OPEN

THE THEME IS **"SIGNS OF SPRING,"** SO SEND US PHOTOGRAPHS THAT SHOW US SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER (OR HERE)! IT CAN BE A PERSON, PLACE OR THING BUT IT MUST RING "SPRING." SEND ENTRIES, UP TO 5 IMAGES (HI-RES ARE BEST) WITH THE SUBJECT LINE: **"SIGNS OF SPRING PHOTO CONTEST."** PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON EACH PHOTO AND **SUBMIT BY MARCH 31 AT NOON.** SEND TO: **ALAGRECA@DANSPAPERS.COM.** HEAD TO **DANSPAPERS.COM** FOR MORE INFO.

NEWS & VIEWS

East Hampton Man Admits to Kidnapping, Robbing Woman

BY TIMOTHY BOLGER

An East Hampton man has admitted to kidnapping a woman he did not know, robbing her and fleeing to Massachusetts last year.

Jay Rowe pleaded guilty March 25 in Suffolk County court to first-degree robbery, second-degree kidnapping and fourth-degree grand larceny. The plea deal includes an agreement to forfeit the $3,045 that Rowe stole and police recovered.

"This defendant stalked and preyed upon the victim here and brazenly took by force what did not belong to him," Suffolk County District Attorney Raymond Tierney said. "His actions demand extensive prison time."

Prosecutors said the 48-year-old man followed the victim around after she went to a bank in East Hampton, withdrew several thousand dollars and got into her vehicle on March 8, 2021. He then forced her to a remote location where he demanded her money at gunpoint and fled the scene, authorities said. His DNA was found on the victim's glove box, according to investigators.

Rowe faces up to 9 1/2 years in prison and five years of post-release supervision when he is sentenced May 19 by Judge Richard Ambro. His attorney was not immediately available for comment.

GETTY IMAGES

Riverside Man Pleads Guilty to Killing Girlfriend in Front of Her Daughter

BY TIMOTHY BOLGER

A Riverside man has admitted killing his 45-year-old girlfriend in front of her 9-year-old daughter two years ago.

Bayron Fajardo-Gonzalez pleaded guilty March 28 to second-degree murder in Suffolk County court after a grand jury indicted him for fatally stabbing Tania Fox. He has been held without bail since his arrest.

"This plea will not bring the victim back, nor will it erase the brutal acts her young daughter witnessed," Suffolk County District Attorney Raymond Tierney said. "However, this defendant will now serve an extensive prison sentence and her family and loved ones can hopefully rest a little easier knowing that the defendant has been brought to justice."

Prosecutors said the 34-year-old man, who is not the child's father, attacked the victim after she had arrived at the couple's Ludlam Avenue residence with her daughter following an argument shortly after 11 p.m. on August 20, 2020.

The victim and her daughter locked themselves in the child's bedroom to avoid Fajardo-Gonzalez, who went outside and broke a window to enter the child's bedroom, chasing the mother and child upstairs to a small attic, authorities said.

"If anything happens to me, Bayron is guilty," Fox told her cousin over the phone, according to investigators. "Please take care of (my daughter)."

Fajardo-Gonzalez then found the victim and stabbed Fox multiple times in the chest while her daughter was standing next to her, prosecutors said. The child escaped the attic and called 911, as did a tenant in the residence, as the victim could be heard screaming in the background, authorities said.

Southampton Town Police said responding officers found Fajardo-Gonzalez walking down the stairs from the attic covered in the victim's blood. He admitted he stabbed Fox, prosecutors said. The victim was taken to Peconic Bay Medical Center in Riverhead, where she was pronounced dead.

Fajardo-Gonzalez faces up to 20 years to life in prison when he is scheduled to be sentenced on April 27 before Judge Anthony Senft. His attorney could not be reached for comment.

NEWS & VIEWS

Stony Brook Medicine Hospitals Honored for LGBTQ Care

BY TIMOTHY BOLGER

Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) and its affiliates on the East End are being recognized for exceptional care in treating LGBTQ+ patients in the Hamptons and on the North Fork.

SBUH, which includes Stony Brook Southampton Hospital (SBSH) and Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital (SBELIH) in Greenport, have been named "LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leaders" for 2022 in the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 15th anniversary edition of the Healthcare Equality Index (HEI).

"I am incredibly proud of the integral role Stony Brook University Hospital has played in supporting the LGBTQ+ community," said Carol A. Gomes, chief executive officer for Stony Brook University Hospital.

Stony Brook collaborated with more than 30 locally based organizations and community leaders to complete the LGBTQ+ Health Needs Assessment Survey, which aimed to provide Long Island's LGBTQ+ community with an opportunity to express their healthcare needs. It also continues to grow its dynamic LGBTQ+ Committee and in May 2021, relaunched SBSH's Edie Windsor Healthcare Center, which has provided care for the LGBTQ+ community and those with HIV since the 1990s.

STAFF CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH AT STONY BROOK SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL. (CREDIT: COURTESY STONY BROOK SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL)

Two Abandoned Ducklings Rescued Near Queens Park Are Being Treated for Abuse at Long Island Shelter

BY BILL PARRY

COURTESY OF LION

TWO DUCKLINGS WERE RECENTLY RESCUED NEAR ASTORIA PARK. THE LEADER OF THE ANIMAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION SHELTERING THEM URGES THE PUBLIC NOT TO BUY OR ABANDON CHICKS AND DUCKLINGS THIS SPRING.

At first glance, the rescue of two ducklings near Astoria Park last week seems like a warm and fuzzy tale just in time for the Easter season, but the Riverhead expert who rescued them described something far more nefarious.

John Di Leonardo, the anthrozoologist and president of Long Island Orchestrating for Nature (LION) in Riverhead, says he was alerted through social media that the two ducklings were spotted in Astoria Park with a very young chicken. Two LION volunteers located the ducks across the street from the park "looking terrified" behind the fence of an apartment building, but the chicken wasn't found, Di Leonardo said.

The volunteers had to negotiate with the landlord for hours before they were allowed onto the property to rescue the ducklings, which were brought to the shelter in Riverhead where they are recovering.

The two ducklings are no more than 8 weeks old and had their toes cut off, Di Leonardo explained, adding that fowl are exempted from federal protections, including the Animal Welfare Act and the Humane Slaughter Act, so they are routinely raised in filthy, windowless sheds by the thousands. Due to the stress of their confinement, they may self-harm and cannibalize one another, but rather than bettering their squalid conditions, farmers cut off their toes to minimize the harm they can do to themselves or others.

"Baby birds are thinking, feeling persons, not Easter photo ops, school science experiments or trash to be discarded when you don't want them anymore," Di Leonardo said. "Abandoning a chick or domestic duck is cruel and illegal, and no different from abandoning a dog or cat. Domestic ducks have tiny wings, large bodies and no camouflage. They don't know how to forage adequately and cannot fly or migrate. They are as different from wild ducks as a housecat is from a tiger and are literally sitting ducks for predators and cruel people when abandoned to the wild."

The two ducklings rescued near Astoria Park were emaciated and suffered from bumblefoot, a type of staph infection that is common in ducks.

Di Leonardo and his volunteers rescued more than a dozen waterfowl and geese from a Forest Hills home in January. The last of those rescued birds were recently placed in their "forever home."

While his animal advocacy organization rescues hundreds of birds each year, he said the average person can save 200 baby animals just like the two ducklings annually simply by leaving them off their plate. LION is launching a major campaign to end the exploitation of chicks, ducklings and other baby animals during the spring, when they are abandoned en masse after school hatching projects and around the Easter holiday. Di Leonardo said the adage "Adopt, don't shop" applies to all animals and that animal abandonment is a crime.

"When introduced into nature, non-native species disrupt natural ecosystems, which rely on the migratory behavior of wild ducks and geese and the natural recovery period that comes with their absence," Di Leonardo said, adding, "They can also spread disease to native species ..."

East Hampton Airport Plan Making Progress

BY TIMOTHY BOLGER

The plan to convert East Hampton Airport from public to private use is moving forward in the Town of East Hampton's bid to enact new flight curfews and aircraft restrictions, officials said. The Federal Aviation Administration has completed its airport airspace analysis and found no objection to the plan to deactivate the airport at 11:59 p.m. May 17 and activate the new airport in Wainscott at 9 a.m. May 19, according to the town and FAA.

"The FAA is working closely with the Town of East Hampton so all federal regulations are followed to ensure the safety of the airspace," the agency said. The town is also working with Flight Tech Engineering to design and implement private instrument flight procedures that will require FAA approval.

The town has previously said the draft rules it is planning to impose include limiting flights between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Also among the proposed restrictions would be the phasing out of allowing aircraft that use lead-based fuel.

The town had bumped the planned temporary closure and reopening of the airport from February to May amid ongoing discussions with the FAA and three lawsuits.

DAN'S COLUMN

Ranking the Presidents

BY DAN RATTINER

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Every year, two well-known institutions, C-SPAN and Siena College, rank all of our presidents from best to worst. They do this by asking historians from both the left and right of the political spectrum to do the work. The idea is to get a fair and balanced result.

Abraham Lincoln is usually No. 1. George Washington is usually No. 2. It goes on from there.

I thought it might be interesting to publish the rankings of all the presidents who at one time or another spent time on the East End. So here they are.

In 1757, as a young colonel in the U.S. Army, George Washington stayed at the William Booth Inn in Greenport (then known as Stirling) while traveling from New York to Boston. In 1790, as president, he made another trip out to the East End. He wanted to personally thank the group of spies who worked for him during the revolution. He exchanged letters with them. But he had never met them. He was a frail man of 58 when he came out that second time, not on horseback as we always remember him, but in a horse-drawn carriage. His goal was Setauket, just adjacent to Stony Brook, where the members of this Culper Spy Ring lived. His meetings in Setauket were joyous. Afterwards, he went back to the City the way he came.

In 1898, Col. Theodore Roosevelt lived in Montauk from mid-August to early October, as part of the 29,500-man American army that lived in a vast tent camp to recover from tropical illnesses after triumphantly throwing the Spanish out of Cuba. He was a war hero and not yet president. He is ranked this year No. 4.

Thomas Jefferson is ranked No. 5. He was the main author of the Declaration of Independence and was our president from 1801 to 1809. In 1791, as secretary of state, he came out East to visit prominent citizen Ezra L'Hommedieu at his home in Southold, then to go see William Floyd, Long Island's signer of the declaration who had a mansion at Mastic Beach. While there, Jefferson sought out and met with a woman who was a member of the Unkechaug Indian Nation that was then in decline, but who still knew the tribe's Native language. Jefferson transcribed much of this language in order to preserve it for posterity. In 1809, in the last year of his presidency, he put the transcription in a trunk with other presidential papers that he ordered shipped back to his Monticello home in Virginia. It never arrived. It was soon learned that a stevedore had stolen the trunk while it was being loaded aboard ship, and finding nothing of value inside, dumped it overboard into the James River. Jefferson subsequently wrote a letter to a friend stating that he hoped the thief, now on trial, would be hanged. It's an extraordinary letter. But it never happened.

James Madison, No. 7, then a congressman, from Virginia after overseeing the creation of the U.S. Constitution, accompanied Jefferson on his visit to Floyd's house in 1791. Madison became a very effective President in 1809, declared war on England for impressing American sailors at sea (recruiting them by force), leading to a great outpouring of American patriotism.

Before he became president in 1961, Jack Kennedy, No. 10, married Jackie Bouvier, a young woman from East Hampton. It was in 1953. There's a photograph of them sailing in what many believe to be Gardiner's Bay. But I know of no other record of his visiting his in-laws here.

Bill Clinton became president in 1993 and is ranked No. 15. He balanced the federal budget and was a master at negotiating compromise. He and his wife Hillary have rented summer homes in the Hamptons for years. He's umpired three times at the annual Artist-Writers softball game, most recently in 2021.

William McKinley, No. 20, elected president in 1897, visited war hero Roosevelt in Montauk in September 1898. McKinley led the country through a great economic boom while he was president and was very popular. When he was assassinated in Buffalo in 1901, the man he had chosen to become his vice president in 1900, Roosevelt, became president.

Richard Nixon, No. 29, was a frequent guest at Gurney's Inn in Montauk prior to becoming president. He wrote one of his Republican Presidential nomination acceptance speeches here. He's praised for opening up China to the outside world and has been criticized for authorizing burglars to break into his political opponents' headquarters and plant listening devices so he would know his opponents' plans. After being caught lying about it, he resigned in 1974. He is the only president who ever resigned.

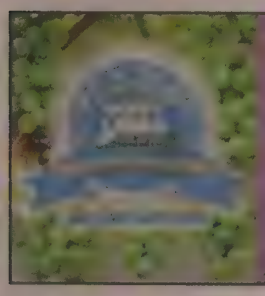
Chester Arthur, No. 34, was a frequent summer visitor to the Hamptons, keeping a summer White House in Sag Harbor during the 1880s. He's criticized for enacting America's first anti-immigration laws, refusing to allow Chinese people to become American citizens for 10 years.

After President John Tyler's wife Letitia died in the second year of his presidency in 1842, he courted and married a young East Hampton woman named Julia Gardiner. He was 54. She was 23. Tyler visited his in-laws here. A terrible president whose views got him thrown out of his own political party, he served only one term. And when the Civil War broke out in 1861, he, a slave owner, became a senator for the Confederacy. He's ranked No. 37 of our 44 presidents.

Donald Trump, president from 2017 to 2021 and ranked No. 42, is criticized for withdrawing from the Paris Agreement designed to stop global warming, threatening to withdraw from NATO, blocking immigration and fomenting an insurrection in Washington after claiming he'd won a second term when he did not. Before his presidency, Trump, a wealthy man, created a helicopter service that shuttled visitors between Manhattan and East Hampton. He is the only president to have been impeached twice.

And who is ranked as our worst president at No. 45? Andrew Johnson, a Southerner who became vice president in 1864 on the ticket with Abraham Lincoln. After Lincoln was shot, President Johnson took over and looked the other way as the Ku Klux Klan in the South returned to terrorizing and lynching African Americans, thus reversing much of what Lincoln accomplished earlier. Johnson also was impeached, and just barely survived — by one vote — a proposal to remove him from office.

Johnson never set foot on eastern Long Island.



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NEWS & VIEWS

COLLEEN PETERSON

WORK ON "STARGAZER" WILL RESUME IN APRIL

'Stargazer' Restoration Resumes With Funding, But More May Be Needed

BY OLIVER PETERSON

With spring now fully underway and pre-season beautification in order, the man tasked with restoring late artist Linda Scott's iconic "Stargazer" sculpture in Manorville is getting back to work this month, and he finally has the funds to do it — mostly.

Scott's longtime boyfriend David Morris helped realize her unprecedented vision of erecting the 50-foot red sculpture of a deer looking to the heavens with a branch in its mouth at the gateway to the Hamptons back in 1991, and he remained its steward, patching holes and fixing damage as it came. But the sculpture fell into serious disrepair over the last 30 years, and when Scott died of cancer in 2015, Morris became even more motivated to keep his girlfriend's legacy alive. The full restoration effort has been monumental, and things are looking more promising than ever, but a few hurdles remain.

Last fall, Lindenhurst-based orthopedic surgeon Dr. Harvey Manes of the Manes American Peace Prize Foundation presented Morris with a $100,000 donation to help cover the bulk of the badly needed restoration, which will be funneled through the Brooklyn-based nonprofit Arete Living Arts Foundation. The FLAG Art Foundation in Manhattan also pledged $50,000 (half of which will be paid later), Sherwin Williams donated paint, GO Solar gave lighting, and additional pledges have trickled in through the "Stargazer" GoFundMe page and the artist's website, lindascott.org.

Arete Living Arts Foundation executive director John Whiteman said his organization keeps excellent accounting of how all donations are spent, and they have been an instrumental part of ensuring "Stargazer" and Scott's legacy continue long into the future. "I see what's being spent on a weekly basis," he said, noting that Arete has overseen "Stargazer" since before Scott's death.

Morris has applied numerous temporary fixes throughout the decades, but this latest work, now backed by significant funding, aims to fully restore the sculpture and make it more solid and structurally sound than the original build, essentially redoing everything from the ground up. He began this newly funded restoration last year, working through mid-December on framing and plywood, in preparation for the stucco outer layer, before the winter weather forced him to stop.

"I haven't started it yet (this year) because of the weather — you don't know what's going to happen in March," Morris said this week, explaining his plans to resume work on the sculpture by mid-April. "I don't want to take the material out and then we have a storm and everything is blowing all over the fields out there. So I'll probably start in a couple of weeks, full blast, again."

NEWS & VIEWS

"STARGAZER" IN ITS FINISHED STATE

LINDASCOTT.ORG

AN ICON TAKES SHAPE IN MANORVILLE, 1991

Unfortunately, not everything has gone according to plan.

"I thought this was going to go three times faster than I predicted. But it was very difficult to keep the shape, cutting the stucco. I had to prop things up to keep the shape, and I want to keep it exactly the way it was, the profile. I had to trace everything. ... It's quite complicated," Morris said, pointing out that the cost of materials has gone up about 30% since he set the budget for repairs.

Morris said he's applied most of the plywood on one side, which he may end up painting red so "Stargazer" looks presentable over the summer as he works toward getting it done properly, complete with acrylic stucco, which will protect it for many years to come.

When he and Scott first built "Stargazer," Morris said the acrylic stucco was a new product, and they didn't anticipate the water problem it created when condensation got caught behind the panels and couldn't escape. "And to compound it, I had the birds getting in there. I never saw it on top, but the woodpeckers pecked holes in it," he said. The new build will include ventilation, and Morris plans to add a metal layer on top so the woodpeckers can't peck holes that would allow water to seep in.

"The way we built it originally, it was never going to last that long, as long as it did," Morris said. After "Stargazer" is properly restored, when it's finally complete, he said it shouldn't need another serious repair for 10 years or longer. Adding a fresh coat of paint annually would also do wonders for maintaining the sculpture, Morris noted.

It appears inevitable that more funds will be needed for materials and to rent the expensive articulating construction lifts he needs before the last stucco panel and coat of paint are applied. "The worst-case scenario, I might not get it all stucco-ed this year, it all depends. And I might have to raise a little more money, but I'm really optimistic. It'll have the whole shape to it," Morris added.

And of course, even more money will be required to keep "Stargazer" going in perpetuity. After he dies, Morris said he has a friend who could potentially take over as steward, but nothing happens without funding, which would continue to be managed by the Arete Living Arts Foundation. "We have an ongoing, 20-year contract for the land," Whiteman said. "It's definitely a long-term plan for the 'Stargazer.'"

"We have to get some more money for the future. Once it's all done and looking great, we'll just raise money for that, like a pool of money so if anything happens it'll keep it up," Morris said.

For now, however, the mission remains focused on making "Stargazer" as good as new. Morris admits he's a bit crazy for continuing the difficult job, but it's about honoring Scott, who he thinks about "all the time" — especially while working on her sculpture. "If I think of her, I can hear her voice, just the way she would talk and everything, metaphysically, through my mind's eye," he said, describing their close relationship with a deep connection fueled by shared interests in topics such as quantum physics, the stars and, of course, art. "Her son Morgan called me his stepfather," Morris added.

Along with managing the funding for "Stargazer," Whiteman said Arete is hoping to make a documentary film about Linda Scott and her sculpture. He pointed out that Scott was an important female figure in the New York Abstract Expressionist scene, and her story should be told on film. Meanwhile, he and Morris will talk soon about what's needed to complete the "Stargazer" restoration. "I keep a close watch on it," Whiteman continued, adding, "We do have another grant coming in for the 'Stargazer' in the next six months." But only time will tell how far the funds will go toward completing the job.

If the money runs out, it seems likely someone will step up to help save the beloved sculpture that welcomes drivers to the Hamptons. "I never thought it would become like this. This big. I never thought it would become a landmark the way it did. It has its own life," Morris said. "People love it so much."

Visit gofundme.com/f/save-the-stargazer or lindascott.org to contribute to the restoration project.

> "The worst-case scenario, I might not get it all stucco-ed this year, it all depends. And I might have to raise a little more money, but I'm really optimistic." ~ David Morris

JOSEPH PALMISANO

DAVID MORRIS, DR. HARVEY MANES AND JOHN WHITEMAN

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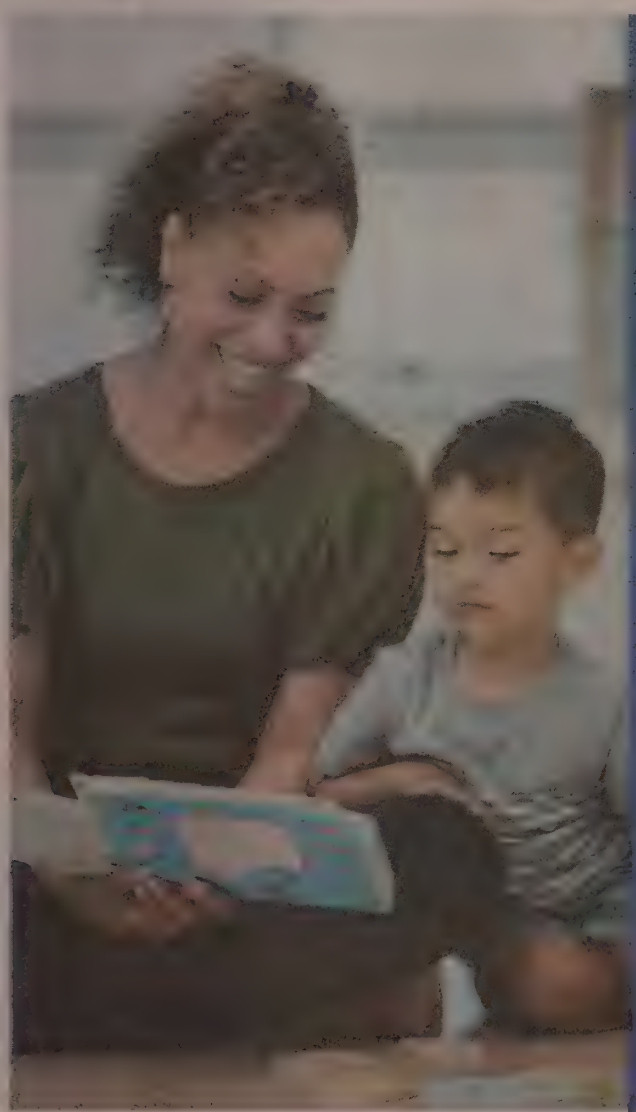

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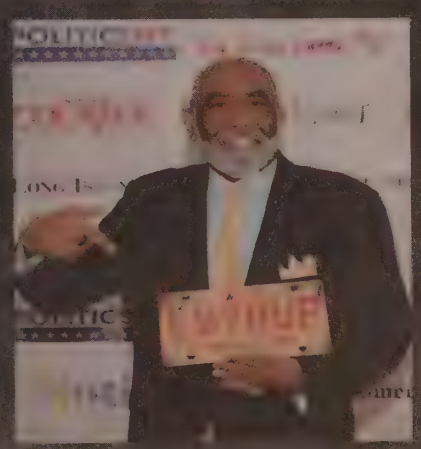

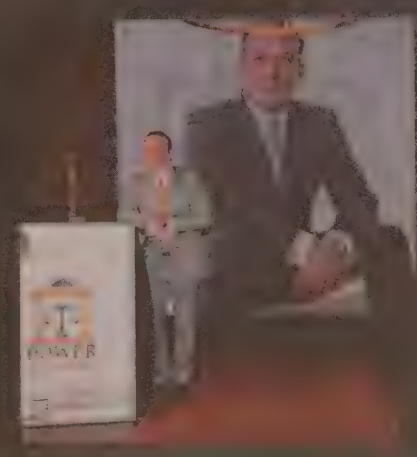

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REAL ESTATE

Sagaponack Oceanfront Property and Vacant Parcel, Asking $48 Million, Find Buyer

COURTESY COMPASS

TWO SAGAPONACK PROPERTIES — ONE ON THE OCEAN AT 35 POTATO ROAD AND ONE TO THE NORTH AT 543 DANIEL'S LANE — HAVE FOUND A BUYER.

BY TAYLOR K. VECSEY

Two Sagaponack parcels, including an oceanfront property, asking for a total of $48 million, made it to contract last week before it was even officially on the market.

Christopher Covert of Compass is representing the sellers in the transaction, along with Chris Coleman, also of Compass. Hedgerow Exclusive Properties, a Bridgehampton-based firm that specializes in off-market transactions, brought the buyer. Covert declined to say how much the buyer has agreed to pay for two separate and single parcels totaling almost four acres. Hedgerow also declined to comment.

For more real estate news visit **behindthehedges.com**

The two oceanfront acres at 35 Potato Road and the vacant property to the north at 543 Daniel's Lane, were billed as "a once in a generation opportunity to create a legacy estate compound by the sea."

The oceanfront property is also rare in that it is situated above the flood zone. The property is elevated just enough that a lower level could easily be designed if building new without the constraints many other oceanfront properties have.

The current 5,200-square-foot home on the first lot enjoys 250 feet of direct ocean frontage with views from every level. Originally, there were two one-acre parcels on the ocean with two separate homes, Covert explains. When one family sold it to the neighboring one, the properties were merged and the two homes were connected with an enclosed breezeway.

"It is certainly a very well maintained home as it is," Covert says. There are a total of seven bedrooms and five-and-a-half baths, along with a third-level sunroom, roof deck and multiple oceanside decks.

In addition, there is an oceanside gunite pool and an indoor Endless lap pool for year-round swimming.

To the north is the undeveloped, but cleared, nearly two-acre lot at 543 Daniel's Lane — one of the last undeveloped parcels of land this close to the beach in all the Hamptons. There is room for a house with 7,000 square feet of space above grade plus a lower level. A pool, pool house and tennis court could also be built.

Covert refused to name the sellers or the buyers.

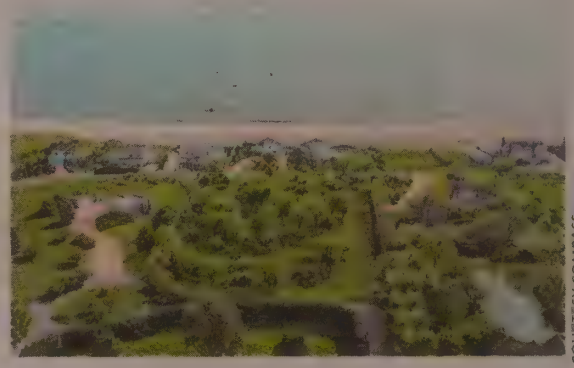
According to property records, 35 Potato Road and 543 Daniel's Lane have been owned by a limited liability corporation called Chicken Coop since 2019. The late philanthropist Diane (Didi) W. Burke transferred ownership into the LLC.

Burke's late husband James (Jim) E. Burke, who had served as chairman and CEO during the course of his 37 years with Johnson & Johnson, was listed on the deed for 35 Potato Road as of 2016, though he died in 2012. Burke's sister, Phyllis Davis, is also listed on the Daniel's Lane property. (Many will recognize the Bridgehampton homeowner's name as a benefactor of local charities and Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, where the Edmund & Phyllis Davis Wellness Institute exists).

Fortune magazine named Jim Burke one of history's 10 greatest CEOs in 2003, much in part due to his leadership during the Tylenol poisonings in 1982 and, according to *The Washington Post*, Burke took charge of a committee to produce tamper-proof packaging. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the country in 2000.

His wife, whose father served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior under President Dwight D. Eisenhower, died in December at the age of 94.

The couple was passionate about improving the health and wellbeing of children and created a philanthropic foundation. For more than 25 years, the Burke Foundation has supported programming in fields including the arts, health care, education and community revitalization, with an emphasis on creating equal opportunities for all families and children, according to its website.



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Deeds

HAMLET	SELLER	PURCHASER	ADDRESS	PROPERTY	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
Hamlet	Seller	Purchaser	Address	Property	Closing Date	Price
Amagansett	Joseph & Nancy Walker	Town of East Hampton	28 Broadview Road	Vacant	12/10/21	9,300,000
	Moxey Savon LLC	Elin & Karl Lindman	288 Bluff Road	Residence	01/27/22	7,900,000
Aquebogue	Bradley & Kathleen Lanser	183 Linda Ave LLC	183 Linda Avenue	Residence	01/19/22	560,000
	Patricia Pratel-Scionti	Yanira Castro	492 Hubbard Avenue	Residence	12/02/21	265,000
Baiting Hollow	Richard Greenwald	Melissa & Stephen Kalbacher	227 Fox Hill Drive	Condo	12/17/21	499,000
	Patricia McHugh	Edward & Robin Trapani	118 Fox Hill Drive	Condo	10/25/21	495,000
Bridgehampton	CBH NY LLC	ABS Meadowlark LLC	81 Meadowlark Lane	Residence	12/15/21	17,750,000
	Michael Fitzsimmons	Laurence & Rebecca Grafstein	109 Trelawney Road	Residence	01/24/22	8,600,000
	Charles Tiska	JWD 4 LLC	732 Lumber Lane	Residence	12/08/21	7,575,000
	1751SHR LLC	Greenwich Rose LLC	1751 Scuttle Hole Road	Residence	12/16/21	6,600,000
	Daphne & Robert Kricheff	Dana & Matt Kossoy	72 Mecox Field Lane	Residence	10/14/21	5,500,000
	Willford LLC	Nathan Urquhart	58 Lockwood Avenue	Residence	12/10/21	4,300,000
	Cancellieri & Grubb LLC	BH Main LLC	2422 Montauk Highway	Commercial	01/26/22	2,695,000
	Charles L Ruoff	50 Halsey LLC	50 Halsey Lane	Residence	02/07/22	2,225,000
	Estate of Michael Maiden	Daniel Baldini	35 Halsey Lane	Residence	10/27/21	1,800,000
Calverton	Hyunok Kim	Daniel Cox	5284 Route 25A	Residence	01/07/22	825,000
	John Kulesa	Dawid Kalicki	93 Timber Drive	Residence	02/03/22	455,000
Cutchogue	Rimor Development LLC	Peter & Yvonne Ioveno	29 Harvest Pointe Lane	Condo	11/30/21	875,000
Dering Harbor	Sylvester Road Associates LLC	34 Shelter Associates LLC	4 Sylvester Road	Residence	12/02/21	6,000,000
East Hampton	Caroline Snow Trust	Barcelona of East Hampton LLC	693 Route 114	Residence	12/22/21	10,200,000
	28 BF Holdings LLC	Town of East Hampton	Green Hollow Road	Vacant	12/21/21	6,845,000
	Gerard Knight	Clive Gershon	7 Woodpink Drive	Residence	02/04/22	3,795,000
	Tajo Building Corp	Luis Vasquez	7 Sulky Circle	Residence	01/31/22	3,295,000
	Adam & Hayley Foster	Lisa Rose	385 Hands Creek Road	Residence	02/28/22	2,900,000
	Barbara & Steven Lambert	Leonard I Ackerman	11 Horseshoe Drive	Residence	12/17/21	2,400,000
	Estate of Carol Walter	Biljana Bosanac	43 Old Orchard Lane	Residence	01/14/22	2,380,000
	Charles & Suzanne Polizzi Trust	Amanda & Stephen Lampard	10 Harvest Lane	Residence	10/25/21	1,925,000
	Madeline Cooper	Andrew Hubschmann	114 Neck Path	Residence	02/01/22	1,895,000
	John Minardo	Sara Fielder	11 Cattalo Circle	Residence	02/04/22	1,750,000
	Mark Senor Trust	Eduardo J Varela	25 Alewive Brook Road	Residence	01/14/22	1,610,000
	19 6th St East Hampton LLC	Ashleigh & Eliot Freeston	19 6th Street	Residence	01/26/22	1,595,000
	Jane Arginteanu	Allyson Alberse	72 Whooping Hollow Road	Residence	12/20/21	1,450,000
	Susanne Kelly	Lauren Adams	14 Prospect Blvd	Residence	01/28/22	1,370,000
	Allison & Edward Ceraso	Leandra & William Hiscock	31 Squires Path	Residence	06/19/21	1,350,000
	Luz Lopez	Matthieu Baumann	133 Middle Highway	Residence	01/03/22	1,225,000
	Alan & Martha Drezin	Nathan Fouiger	31 Deerpex Drive	Residence	01/19/22	1,100,000
	Kim D Rocco-Puglisi	Ragip & Sonila Kastrati	35 Blue Jay Way	Residence	11/22/21	985,000
	Cynthia M Sherman	Karen Weisz	17 Kent Place	Residence	01/10/22	955,000
	Benjamin Dollinger	Charles McMillen	131 Norfolk Drive	Residence	01/25/22	938,300
	Colleen Whelan	Chelsea Moss	39 Lincoln Street	Residence	12/08/21	880,000
	Blas Frangione Foundation	MNZI LLC	39 Landfall Road	Vacant	01/27/22	875,000
	Mary Schlifert	Matthew McGuire	64 Tyrone Drive	Residence	11/17/21	745,000
	Craig Kenney	Shannon & William Roesch	91 Camberly Road	Vacant	01/28/22	679,000
	Grand Manor Holdings LLC	9 Woodcock Lane LLC	9 Woodcock Lane	Residence	01/25/22	650,000
	Charles & Frances McConnell	Town of East Hampton	23 McElnea Street	Residence	01/26/22	562,266
East Quogue	Shelly Cheney	Carlos Leal	3 Fox Hollow Drive	Residence	01/21/22	2,000,000
	Jon & Ricki Garito	Sondra Kronberg	4 Fox Hollow Drive	Residence	10/15/21	1,907,000
	Derval & Martin Whelan	David Shapiro	31 Jackson Avenue	Residence	01/20/22	1,050,000
	Keith & Vanessa Billotti	Elizabeth Kessenich	12 Walker Avenue	Residence	12/16/21	980,000
	Jennifer & Michael Mattera	John & Kathleen Gallagher	42 Eisenhower Drive	Residence	02/01/22	960,000
	Eileen & Thomas Cregan	Maureen & Raymond McGarvey	36 Deerfeed Path	Residence	06/26/21	870,000
	Sandra L Thompson	Marci & Steven Pekofsky	37 Squires Avenue	Residence	12/29/21	580,000
	27 Corbett Drive LLC	Michelle Giuliano	27 Corbett Drive	Vacant	02/04/22	540,000
Eastport	Irene McGrath	Alexandria M Parker	7 Andys Lane	Residence	12/23/21	271,000
Flanders	Riverside Catwalk LLC	Town of Southampton	Flanders Road	Vacant	12/01/21	1,067,000
	Eaglewood Property Solutions LLC	Victor Velasquez-Camey	334 Brookhaven Avenue	Residence	11/05/21	400,000
	Christine & William Fawcett	Helen Homes Corp	87 Priscilla Avenue	Residence	12/03/21	345,000
Greenport	123 Sterling Avenue LLC	Four Forty Five Realty LLC	123 Sterling Avenue	Commercial	12/27/21	15,500,000
	Kimon H Retzas	Sunset Sound Views LLC	62345 Route 48	Residence	12/09/21	1,700,000
	David Jannuzzi	Lawrence Yates	306 Bridge Street	Residence	12/01/21	1,400,000
	Maureen & Ralph Caouette	Marilyn C Lawrence	447 6th Street	Residence	10/22/21	1,300,000
	Nikolaos Alexandrou	Roseline Koener	435 Maple Lane	Vacant	12/17/21	579,000
	Susan K DePaola	Richard Cifarelli	Main Road	Vacant	01/24/22	369,000
Hampton Bays	Falcon Development Group of HB LLC	Good Ground 80 LLC	80 East Montauk Highway	Commercial	12/21/21	5,700,000
Hampton Bays	Joseph & Karen Knight	Frank Delponte	9 Romana Drive	Residence	01/21/22	1,775,000
	Christopher & Margaret Furbank	Jason & Kristine Argiro	75 Old Canoe Place Road	Residence	12/22/21	1,270,000
	Erika Falcoperi	Alex & Sigal Greenberg	59 Red Creek Road	Residence	02/17/22	1,125,000
	Maureen A Lynch	Ana Jimenez-Bustos	44 Shore Road	Residence	01/25/22	903,000
	Danielle Cervini	John & Sandra Correa	18 Robertson Lane	Residence	01/27/22	839,375
	MOM Construction LLC	Andrew Elliston	76 Old Riverhead Road	Residence	01/16/22	822,000
	Lisa & Raymond Conklin	Gloria Arce	17 Argonne Road West	Residence	06/14/21	730,000
	Linda & Ronald Plourde	BV Holdings NY Inc	51 West Tiana Road	Residence	01/12/22	725,000
	SAK Shore Property Management LLC	Margarita Cuamatitla	26 Shore Road	Residence	12/17/21	710,000
	Hector Marin	Abby & Abtin Motia	164 West Tiana Road	Residence	01/21/22	670,000
	Andrei Tapfer	Rolando Mendoza-Rivas	36 School Street	Residence	12/15/21	650,000
	Laura & Stanley Millard	Morgan Oliveira	49 Canoe Place Road Unit 213	Condo	01/06/22	595,000
Jamesport	Oracle LLC	Anna & Bill Martakis	45 Circle Drive	Residence	12/21/21	375,000
Mattituck	Marratime Capital LLC	D Ryan & Kathryn Quigley	245 Royalton Row	Residence	02/01/22	1,850,000
	Patrick R Holand	Anthony Williams	1065 Harvest Lane	Residence	01/25/22	800,000
	MCM Main Road LLC	Jing Chen	11250 Main Road	Residence	12/16/21	755,000
	Donald & Doreen Kirby Trust	Dean & Helen Pappas	95 Donna Drive	Residence	01/27/22	725,000
	Robert Badenhop	Philip A Wanat	600 South Drive	Residence	02/04/22	400,000
	Brooklyn Timber LLC	Range Life Mgmt LLC	4475 Stanley Road	Vacant	01/20/22	275,000
	Arlene Foster	Gregory & Katarina Siliris	616 Miller Road	Vacant	01/18/22	225,000
Montauk	508 West 25th Street LLC	404 Old Montauk LLC	404 Old Montauk Highway	Vacant	01/26/22	6,320,000
	46 Edison LLC	334 Springs Fireplace LLC	46 Edison Drive	Residence	12/06/21	5,600,000
	240 Fort Pond LLC	Montauk Fort Pond Acquisitions II LLC	240 Fort Pond Road	Commercial	01/25/22	3,000,000
New Suffolk	Susan & Warren Knecht	Lois Shapiro	23 Fort Pond Road Unit 41	Condo	12/21/21	725,000
North Haven	Gary D Osborne	David & Elizabeth Kramer	1200 1st Street	Residence	10/25/21	2,100,000
	Michael S Nobiletti	Gonzo Haven LLC	36 Sunset Beach Road	Residence	01/18/22	6,200,000
	Lisa Rose	Dennis & Didi McCormick	28 Barclay Drive	Residence	02/08/22	4,150,000

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Deeds

HAMLET	SELLER	PURCHASER	ADDRESS	PROPERTY	CLOSING DATE	PRICE
	Keane Brothers LLC	Sajneet Khangura	36 East Harbor Drive	Residence	01/14/22	3,850,000
	Paul Critchlow	Patricia McCormick	15 Fresh Pond Road	Residence	07/16/21	1,900,000
	Brian J Younger	Janine & Stephen Rosen	169 Ferry Road	Vacant	10/26/21	1,350,000
Quiogue	Richard W Bookamer	Daniel & Katie Fanelli	480 Main Street	Residence	03/02/22	1,800,000
	Renee Keller	Mitchell & Nina Auerbach	10 Jennifers Path	Residence	02/15/22	1,618,000
	Dylan N Martin	Jennifer Gore	69 Peters Lane	Vacant	12/20/21	399,000
Quogue	Patricia & Richard Lutz	6 Beach Lane LLC	6 Beach Lane	Residence	12/08/21	2,800,000
	Pennimans Point LP	Second Neck Estates LLC	30 Second Neck Lane	Vacant	02/08/22	1,625,000
Remsenburg	Kiera & Thomas Burger	Colleen Lewis	129 South Country Road	Residence	12/20/21	1,675,000
Riverhead	VanDeWetering Capital LLC	Columbia Care LLC	5784 Sound Avenue	Commercial	04/20/21	30,000,000
	Catcove Group Inc	Town of Southampton	Flanders Road	Vacant	12/01/21	933,000
	Mark Cappers	Angela & Richard Partridge	27 Linda Lane East	Residence	02/04/22	607,500
	Osprey's Compass LLC	Michael & Steven Mirochnik	44 Woodlawn Drive	Residence	11/08/21	547,000
	G & Z Riverhead Community LLC	David & Linda Mankoff	12 Red Barn Road	Condo	12/13/21	532,400
	Hector Castillo	Carlos Perez	1106 Roanoke Avenue	Residence	01/11/22	460,000
	Julio Lussardi	Allison Denniston	2904 Willow Pond Drive	Condo	01/21/22	430,000
	Michael L Miller	Debra & Ronald Gholson	100 Woodhull Avenue	Residence	12/23/21	420,000
	Estate of Norman Wamback	Antonina Conti Trust	2401 Augusta Alley	Condo	01/25/22	410,000
	Suk & Yiu Lee	Heber Castro	28 Kings Drive	Residence	12/23/21	395,000
	Bernadette Osterberg	Joseph D Desposito	88 Promenade Drive	Vacant	12/30/21	270,000
	Estate of Victor Gallo	Sand Land Corp	Sunrise Highway	Vacant	12/16/21	110,000
	James & Mark Booker	Riverhead 44 LLC	1144 Northville Turnpike	Vacant	12/03/21	81,000
Sag Harbor	69 Ridge LLC	3OneZero Seychelle LLC	69 Ridge Drive	Residence	12/22/21	3,750,000
	Neil Horvick	Joanne Zervos	26 Lighthouse Lane	Residence	12/23/21	3,050,000
	Christina Kelly	Christopher Mead	143 Northside Drive	Residence	01/27/22	2,950,000
	Claude D Beudert	Andrew Cox	28 Cliff Drive	Residence	01/28/22	2,090,000
	Sue F Calden	Allison & T Cooper	49 Eastville Avenue	Residence	01/28/22	1,705,000
	Sara Peterson	Monica Bertolini	94 Brandywine Drive	Residence	02/16/22	1,700,000
	John Narvesen	Sag Pond Farm LLC	42 Jermain Avenue	Residence	02/17/22	1,600,000
	Dolores & Robert Ericksen	Chute The Moon LLC	84 Northside Drive	Residence	02/24/22	1,559,000
	Charles & Linda Carbona	Brigette & Cyril Renaud	5 Bay View Drive West	Residence	01/20/22	1,512,500
	Brandywine 36 LLC	36 Brandywine Drive LLC	36 Brandywine Drive	Residence	01/31/22	1,450,000
	Andrew Halley	10 Wickatuck LLC	10 Wickatuck Drive	Residence	02/15/22	800,000
Shelter Island Heights	Diana J Giuseppone	102 Peconic Ave SI LLC	102 Peconic Avenue	Residence	12/10/21	4,900,000
	Ann W Foley	Overbrook Real Property (SI) LLC	16 Clinton Avenue	Residence	11/24/21	4,100,000
	Geraldine Weiss Trust	Brenda Aheran	18 Great Circle Drive	Residence	02/03/22	995,000
	Landley Realty Corp	Frank Gurdak	2 Serpentine Drive	Vacant	02/03/22	630,000
	Renee & Salvatore Barcia	Barry & Gail Mallin	Wheeler Road	Vacant	12/23/21	545,000
	Gwendolyn & Samuel Case	Deborah & Vincent Seddio	139A North Ferry Road	Vacant	01/12/22	410,000
	James McGinnis	Herb Sampol	5 Grand Avenue	Vacant	12/13/21	360,000
Southampton	Estate of Frances Shelton	Cabanita Properties LLC	195 Downs Path	Residence	11/29/21	6,364,000
	Kevin C Norden	Mary & Robert Waldbauer	477 Water Mill Towd Road	Residence	11/30/21	4,100,000
	Brian Donnally	Emily & Jay Rittberg	88 Tuckahoe Lane	Residence	10/19/21	3,900,000
	Christian & Mariana Broda	Elizabeth Kapnick	194 Middle Line Highway	Residence	05/14/21	3,798,750
	York Trust	Angela Selden	68 Ridge Road	Residence	11/08/21	3,750,000
	Rosko Farm Realty LLC	Abigail & Ronald Allen	98 Rosko Lane	Residence	05/10/21	3,260,000
	241 Edge LLC	Jacques & Maribel Lieberman	241 Edge of Woods Road	Residence	12/02/21	2,825,000
	125 Basil's South LLC	Brian Portley	125 Middle Pond Road	Residence	12/22/21	2,750,000
	Anita & Arnold Dormer	Flying Point Estate LLC	14 Flying Point Road	Residence	02/02/22	2,215,000
	Christopher Archer	Sean J Belt	128 Cold Spring Point Road	Residence	12/29/21	2,200,000
	Joseph F Stivaletti	Sterling Home Developers Corp	73 Pleasant Lane	Residence	01/25/22	2,000,000
	Joseph Vulpis	Brandon Pinn	2 Roses Grove Road	Residence	03/03/22	1,900,000
	Estate of Kanwaldeep Kalsi	Uriyal LLC	82 Inlet Road East	Residence	10/15/21	1,560,000
	Estate of Linda Kahn	Fernando Matzkin	10 Kennedy Drive	Residence	01/20/22	1,400,001
	Adam & David Brooks	Brittney & Robert Epley	1106 Majors Path	Vacant	12/21/21	1,350,000
	Cynthia & George Halsey	Mostafa Abdel-Ghany	41 Blackwatch Court	Residence	10/13/21	1,270,000
	Martha Shaw	Helen Gurrera	36 Roses Grove Road	Residence	12/01/21	1,200,000
	Lecoco Holdings LLC	Mikelynn Salthouse	491 Hampton Road	Commercial	01/25/22	1,116,000
	Philip B Alford	18 Bay View Investors LLC	18 Bay View Road North	Vacant	09/15/21	936,000
	Alfonso A Lombardi	Ramon Rosario	121 Bridies Path	Residence	12/06/21	912,500
	Stephanie Thayer	1698 Novac Rd LLC	1698 Novack Road	Vacant	01/26/22	900,000
	Fairfield Southampton LLC	Anthony J Sclafani	2 Village Green Drive	Condo	12/22/21	899,000
	Estate of Randall Feinberg	Fernando's Painting Inc	18 Rose Avenue	Residence	12/15/21	760,000
	75 Widener LLC	Jill & Robert Spiegel	75 Widener Lane	Vacant	01/18/22	750,000
Southold	Barnaby & Torrey Robinson	Daniel Goetz	6620 Hortons Lane	Residence	07/23/21	1,375,000
	Kim A Gibbs	Donald Hoyer	30 Summer Lane	Residence	01/03/22	875,000
	Lederer Family Trust	Donna Bekisz	750 Cedar Drive	Residence	12/15/21	756,000
	NoRo REO LLC	Amy & Leonard Wessell	49845 County Road 48	Residence	12/17/21	650,000
	Kathleen Nickles	Lisa Cannon	640 Arshamomaque Avenue	Vacant	11/09/21	275,000
Speonk	Michael G Tekel	Gerry Amaya Landscaping Services Inc	4 Depot Road	Residence	01/12/22	690,000
Wading River	Colleen & Timothy Dundas	Ean & Tina Price	32 Forest Lane	Residence	01/24/22	1,250,000
	Ann & Harry Wood	Geralyn A Ganzekaufer	8 Oak Street	Residence	11/18/21	915,000
	Wade Russell	Frederick G Scholl	2379 North Wading River Road	Residence	01/31/22	870,000
	Jane & Gordon Danby Trust	Ashley West	126 Sound Road	Residence	12/17/21	849,500
	Dana L Palmgren	Ines & Ted Valenti	34 Lewis Drive	Residence	03/02/22	820,000
	Simon P Copeutt	Christopher Pontillo	9 Cricket Court	Residence	02/03/22	749,999
	Tanya Suppa	Celia P Constantino	26 Cotton Tail Court	Residence	12/17/21	600,000
	Christopher & Trisha Fragnito	Michael Lampen	42 Elizabeth Drive	Residence	01/28/22	574,000
	Michael & Tara Neidhart	James Misewich	96 Stephen Drive	Residence	01/24/22	560,000
	Antonia & Steven Valassis	Ana Escobar	15 Oliver Street	Residence	02/28/22	475,000
	Estate of Michael Wywczar	Christopher Magidson	Greenbriar Road	Vacant	12/15/21	160,000
Wainscott	Frederic & Robin Seegal	Breg Hoyz LLC	38 Association Road	Residence	12/23/21	30,000,000
Water Mill	Jeffrey & Linda Chodorow	Uday Veeraraghavan	23 Luther Drive	Residence	12/29/21	9,000,000
	Steven Petersohn	Raksake LLC	361 Novac Path	Residence	10/13/21	3,800,000
	1127 Novack Path LLC	Howard Riina	3 Windy Hill Lane	Residence	01/07/22	500,000
	John Manton Trust	LAG Hamptons Property LLC	216 Mill Pond Lane	Vacant	12/16/21	425,000
Westhampton	Phyllis Katz	Dune West LLC	534 Dune Road	Residence	06/30/21	5,800,000
	JC & RC Westhampton Trust	Marc & Roni Friess	23 Fiddler Crab Trail	Residence	03/01/22	2,000,000
	Elaine & Stephen Costello	Igor & Lilia London	101 Lakeside Lane	Residence	08/04/21	1,350,000
	Nina & Richard Bartel	Alex Novack	56 South Country Road	Residence	11/23/21	990,000
	Ruthanna M Jenkins	Laura D Moore	5428 Ent Avenue	Residence	12/22/21	430,000
	Carl & Nancy Mills	721 Hamilton LLC	721 Hamilton Avenue	Residence	01/25/22	320,000
Westhampton Beach	Sullivan S Gallo	Howard & Jana Guja	228 Mill Road	Residence	01/25/22	950,000
	George & Jean Friedlander	Erin & John Ferguson	30 Mitchell Road Apt 4	Condo	01/07/22	845,000

Source: The Real Estate Report Inc

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KEVIN LANG

Tips for Rodent-proofing Your Home

Rodents can damage homes, spoil food and spread disease, but infestations can be prevented by rodent proofing your home.

Inspect The Home
Look for any gnawing, droppings, or urine to locate areas that need to be more thoroughly inspected. Check the foundation for cracks, gaps or holes that need to be repaired.

Check Doors, Windows
Replace any weather stripping that does not create a tight seal. Replace any broken windowpanes. Replace any damaged window or door screens.

Don't Forget The Bushes
Branches or hedges that touch or hang over the house should be cut back, keep grass short and trim bottom of hedges or bushes to expose soil beneath.

Roof Review
Check shingles, roof ventilators and vent screens to be sure they are secure and undamaged, replacing or repairing as needed.

Eye Utilities
Areas where utilities enter the home can also make easy access points for rodents.

Probe The Pipes
Paint a 12-inch band around the pipe at least 3 feet from the ground using high gloss clear paint to stop rodents from climbing. Or place circular metal rodent guards around the pipe.

In addition to this column's insurance tip of the week, I want readers to know they can call me for advice, questions or any coverage concerns at any time at 1-866-964-4434.

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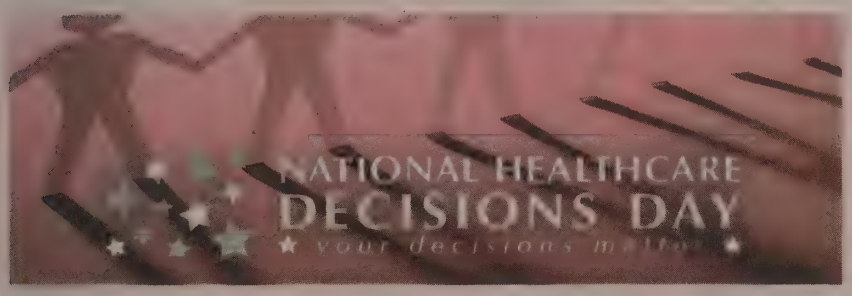

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Honoring This Week's Cover Artist:

Megan Euell

BY DAVID TAYLOR

This week's unique cover comes to us from Megan Euell — a photo she took of her plein air setup while painting Montauk Lighthouse. Here, she discusses the iconic East End landmark, her sight size painting method and inspiring the next generation.

What is the name of this week's cover art, and what inspired its creation?

This painting is titled "Montauk Lighthouse." I painted it entirely plein air, from life, from the vantage point at Camp Hero. I was born and raised on the East End, and have been to the lighthouse many times. It's such an iconic spot, and while I've painted landscapes for more than 10 years, this was my first time creating a painting of the Montauk Lighthouse! My dad loves to join me on painting adventures, so we headed out early from Southampton and made a day of it. When I set up that morning to paint, it was a bit hazy, with lots of clouds, and as the day went on, it cleared up beautifully and everything became more vibrant. I chose to keep the clouds in the painting, which I felt added to the scene. My goal with landscape painting is to celebrate the land, and our beautiful home of Eastern Long Island, and preserve it through my work.

How was this piece created? Walk us through your creative process.

I was trained in a method called sight size, where I create a one-to-one representation of the scene before me. It's a visual tool, and I use it in conjunction with comparative measurement. I took some photos with my phone from a few different spots in the area, and then decided where I wanted to paint. I always begin with a simple drawing in charcoal to plan out the painting, and then dive right in, usually painting background to foreground. I try to mix the cleanest, most accurate color possible and apply the paint and leave it. I put down the general color for each area using larger brushes, and as I get further along, switch to smaller brushes for detail With plein air, you need to paint directly, with a sense of immediacy, as so many factors can change quickly. I treat it like I am participating in a painting marathon, and I have one chance to get it right. Depending on the project, I sometimes work on the painting more in the studio, and other times, I go back to the scene two, three, four times before it is fully finished.

What makes this unique piece an ideal fit for a *Dan's Papers* cover?

My painting is a celebration of the iconic lighthouse. It's unique because of its accuracy and painterly style. I took the photograph of my easel set up in front of the scene to show the viewer that I painted it on location, from life, capturing the essence of the scene before me. The Montauk Lighthouse is a symbol of the East End and its beauty, which I encompass and celebrate in the purest way possible, by painting it.

MEGAN EUELL

How would you describe your art style, and how did you develop it?

I consider myself a representational painter, meaning I paint a realistic impression of my subject. I was initially captivated by classical drawing and painting during high school while I studied at Long Island Academy of Fine Art, previously located in Riverhead. The next step in my journey was attending the Savannah College of Art and Design where I received my BFA in fashion, and minored in drawing. During each summer break, I took courses in landscape painting at LIAFA. Following graduation from the Savannah College of Art and Design, I decided to follow my passion in drawing and painting by attending the Florence Academy of Art, located in Florence, Italy. It was at this academy that I received my education in the sight size method, honed my skills as a fine artist and was fully trained as a classical painter. It was a rigorous, full-time, three-year program. I am immensely grateful to have furthered my education in an atelier setting from amazing instructors, in such a beautiful place.

What artistic accomplishment are you most proud of?

My greatest accomplishment is making a living being a professional artist and my work being recognized by galleries, private clients, art institutions as well as a growing number of students who wish to study with me. This has been my dream since childhood, and it's been a long and incredible journey thus far.

MEGAN EUELL'S "MONTAUK LIGHTHOUSE FROM THE BEACH"

MEGAN EUELL'S "LAFAYETE GROCERY & DAIRY"

What do you find most rewarding about being an artist?

I feel very lucky to be creating and teaching art every day. Art is essential to our culture, and I feel like I am carrying a torch, so to speak, of the next generation of classical American painters. I am striving to continue the classical tradition of working from life, using archival materials and methods to capture the beauty that surrounds us each and every day.

Would you like to share any closing thoughts or additional info?

I will be teaching summer landscape painting workshops on the East End, beginning this June. For those interested, email info@meganeuell.com. I am also available for private lessons in the Hamptons and NYC.

For anyone wishing to commission a painting, I am currently accepting commissions and can be reached via email or through my website, meganeuell.com. All my latest works are posted on my instagram, @meganeuell_artist.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

National Treasure: WHBPAC Celebrates Nicolas Cage

BY OLIVER PETERSON

Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center is doing something a bit out of the ordinary, perhaps even extraordinary, given the venue's somewhat more highbrow, artsy reputation, and it's exactly what we need. Scheduled over three days from April 22–24, Caged In: A Nicolas Cage Film Festival will screen eight selections from the actor's vast filmography and supplement them with a variety of special panels and events digging deep into Cage's four-decade oeuvre.

As the festival's creators (WHBPAC Communications Manager Heather Draskin and Box Office Director Allison Frost) point out, Cage's repertoire is as varied as one can get, and his acting chops have long been the subject of heated debate. The man has earned accolades for his talents, and even a Best Actor Oscar for 1995's *Leaving Las Vegas*, but he's equally, if not more, famous for over-the-top performances in a long list of forgettable, B-grade films. He's a Hollywood legend with a host of iconic roles, just as he's an internet joke with too many memes to count. In short, Nicolas Cage is polarizing and perfect for the kind of celebration WHBPAC has put together.

Attendees of the Caged In festival will enjoy screenings of Cage classics including *Moonstruck* (1987), *Face/Off* (1997), *Adaptation* (2002), *National Treasure* (2004) and *National Treasure: Book of Secrets* (2007), *G-Force* (a 2009 animated film) and *Pig* (2021). But the most interesting part is the list of events, such as a Cornerstone Panel with notable film experts and Nicolas Cage enthusiasts discussing his films and career; the Village Treasure: Store of Secrets treasure hunt throughout the village of Westhampton Beach; Wild at Heart Ultimate Nicolas Cage Acting Experience with teaching artist Kasia Klimiuk; a You Don't Say: Memes in the Age of Cage talk with internet and social media influencers discussing the impact of memes on culture; and, of course, a costume contest (so bring your snakeskin jacket — a symbol of your individuality and your belief in personal freedom).

"We traditionally have a film program that does first-run arthouse, independent and foreign films, so for us to do a festival highlighting somebody who's a little bit more mainstream and a little less indie, definitely was a bit of a switch," Frost explains. "But I think coming out of the pandemic, one of the conversations that we've been having is how do we reach a new audience? How do we reach people who maybe haven't come here in years? How do we reinvigorate the film program?" Frost, who also curates WHBPAC's Rose and Don Ciampa World Cinema Series, points out that a festival like Caged In brings added value to audiences. "You get to the panels, you get to talk to maybe a writer or director, you get to talk to people who have a deeper understanding of film in general," she says. "It's a whole experience."

KATALIN VERMES/LIONSGATE

NICOLAS CAGE AS A VERSION OF HIMSELF IN "THE UNBEARABLE WEIGHT OF MASSIVE TALENT"

With this idea in mind, Frost and Draskin began to brainstorm ideas for such an experience. "On a whim, we began to formulate the idea of a film festival. And in deciding who would be the perfect honoree, we came upon Nicolas Cage because he's a cult actor with such an enigmatic presence, eclectic filmography, and frankly, he's pretty damn interesting," Draskin recalls. "And then when you think of his influence on pop culture and social media, it felt like the perfect fit. We're moving in new directions with things like our film program, where we can flex our creative muscles in a medium that allows for a lot of cinematic freedom," she continues, explaining that Cage is "an actor with a deep reservoir of talent that transcends contemporary acting styles."

Frost and Draskin had already, half-jokingly at first, played with the idea of a Nicolas Cage festival when they caught wind of the actor's latest film, *The Unbearable Weight of Talent*, premiering at South by Southwest. "We saw that and said, 'It's kind of a sign from the universe, right?'" Frost says, describing the new film as "a very meta movie with Nic Cage playing a version of himself who has to deal with all his previous films and characters."

The timing couldn't be better. *The Unbearable Weight of Talent* hits theaters on Friday, April 22, the day the festival begins, and it will surely have fans reinvigorated and excited for all things Nicolas Cage. And so far, the movie has received great reviews, earning a 9.1 on IMDB and 100% on Rotten Tomatoes. Soon everyone will be talking about Cage.

Both 38 years old, Draskin and Frost admit to being longtime fans of Cage and lovers of movies in general, and they say this festival is geared toward people like them — but for fans of all ages. "Twenty-year-olds have a different Nic Cage than we do. They know him more for *National Treasure* and the newer stuff," Draskin says. And that's the beauty of the actor and this celebration, which they envision having a Comic Con-like vibe, complete with panels and cosplay.

"His persona, his style, his everything, it really lends itself to honoring someone like that," Frost points out. "You talk to 100 different people and you're going to get 100 different answers about what their favorite Nic Cage movie is."

"He's got an eclectic filmography, there's just something for everyone," Draskin adds. "He really just embraces it. I just love that he embraces all these different roles, he really owns it. He doesn't phone it in. He really is a pure, authentic actor."

Cage is currently in production so he declined an invitation to the festival, but the organizers are holding onto hope. "You never know, he's done wackier things," Frost says.

Find more info, including tickets and showtimes, at whbpac.org.

COURTESY WHBPAC

ALLISON FROST AND HEATHER DRASKIN OF WHBPAC

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5 Steps to Effectively Manage Today's Market Volatility

The year 2022 has presented challenges for investors, with stock markets experiencing significant volatility and bond markets showing unpredictable movement. Much of this can be attributed to external events. The most notable triggers are Russia's invasion of Ukraine, an extended period of higher inflation, and a shift in monetary policy by the Federal Reserve. Times like these can cause anxiety for investors. As you watch markets move up and down, sometimes dramatically in a day, it's natural to wonder whether it's time to make changes to your investments. Before you do so, it's important to think about your finances in the context of the broader picture and seek advice from a professional who can help you evaluate what actions, if any, you should take. Here are five tips to get started.

#1 – Don't let daily events overly influence your decision making

It is easy to become overwhelmed with the headlines of the day, particularly if seemingly bad news is piling up and having a negative impact on the markets. Keep in mind that we've seen many periods where markets suffered sharp downturns. Yet historically, markets as a whole have always recovered any ground lost during short-term setbacks. Headlines come and go, but building an effective, long-term strategy should remain your primary focus.

#2 – Re-assess your risk tolerance

If you're feeling uneasy about market volatility, you may need to take another look at the level of investment risk with which you are comfortable. Periods of market volatility are often a true test of the ability to withstand temporary setbacks to your portfolio. Another consideration is your time horizon. For example, if you are within five years of retirement, you may want to consider scaling back the level of risk in your portfolio to protect against the impact of a major downturn occurring at the wrong time – just when you need the money for retirement.

#3 – Stay properly diversified

Once you've determined your risk tolerance, the next consideration is diversification. Maintain an appropriate balance of stocks, bonds, and other types of investments. In addition, make certain you don't have a concentrated position. As a rule of thumb, no individual holding should represent more than 20% of your asset mix. This includes company stock you may hold in your workplace retirement plan.

#4 – Continue or expand systematic investments

While volatile markets can be concerning, they shouldn't impact your ongoing investment plans. If you make regular contributions to your workplace savings plan or other accounts, it's best to maintain those investments. If markets go down, your regular contribution will purchase more shares of the investment. That could benefit you over the long run. If you have the ability to save more through systematic investing, don't be hesitant to boost those amounts you sock away regularly.

#5 – Review your strategy with your financial advisor

It can be helpful to discuss your financial situation in the context of today's markets with your financial professional. They will be able to help you assess your current position, if your portfolio carries an appropriate level of risk and whether there may be investment opportunities you should consider today. Having a conversation about the best way to approach today's markets can make a difference and can help keep you on track to achieve your most important goals.

Michael J. Laliberte, CRPC®, is a Financial Advisor with Andriola, Goldberg & Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. He offers fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 11 years

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bay Street's 'The Grift' Review:

A Little Challenge, A Lot of Fun

BY DAVID TAYLOR

MICHAEL HELLER

ELOISE (RACHEL FELDMAN) ATTEMPTING TO GRIFT THE HAMMER (EDDIE KASSAR) AS AUDIENCE MEMBERS WATCH ON FRIDAY, MARCH 25

For Bay Street Theater's first foray into immersive theater, Tom Salamon's *The Grift* is a fun way to challenge your ability to think on your feet, work on your improv and explore areas of Sag Harbor you may never get to see otherwise. But we're getting ahead of ourselves.

When my fellow *Dan's Papers* editor Oliver Peterson and I entered Bay Street on the first night of previews, we were assigned to one of five teams, the orange team, which paired us with a mysterious masked man named Steve (though to be fair, we were all encouraged to remain masked, so it wasn't all that mysterious). Once the other teams filled out, the lights in the lobby grew dim and a sharply dressed gentleman, played by Gabriel Portuondo, drew everyone's attention to a television screen where we were filled in on the dramatic backstory of Ben, the late master of deception who invited each audience member to gather there that evening. Portuondo spoke swiftly and intensely, setting the stage wonderfully for our adventure into the (thankfully fictional) shady underbelly of Sag Harbor.

He then cued a postmortem recording of Ben, portrayed by a famous actor who longtime Bay Street supporters may be able to guess. Though only a recording played on a small screen, the performance was powerful and moving, swaying the audience to get onboard with helping a seemingly well-intentioned con artist take down a more sinister conman known as Eddie "The Hammer" Hammersmith. To do so, we'd need to accomplish one final grift: Fare Thee Well.

But first, we had to prove we could pull off five smaller grifts, so the groups split off with five combination-locked boxes and a clue to their first rendezvous point. This is where the adventure begins, with each group directed to a different starting point in Sag Harbor — a private townhouse, a gallery basement and other exclusive spots that even Sag Harbor residents likely haven't seen — and with the groups cycling through each rendezvous point once. Even if you're not a fan of unconventional theater or group activities, this behind-the-scenes tour alone makes the show worthwhile.

The orange team's first clue took us to meet Grady (Jonathan Randell Silver), whose hyper, frantic energy quickly reminded us that time was of the essence. He introduced us to our first timed test of intelligence, which, without giving too much away, required the smallest level of music sight reading knowledge. Unfortunately, Oliver and I did not even possess that level of knowhow, so it's a good thing we were paired with someone who did. That challenge unlocked the first of our boxes, which contained instructions to the first grift we'd need to complete: the pig in the poke. Like many of the grifts that followed, this required a bit of acting and deception. All around, our first set of challenges offered a great deal of excitement, exemplified by Silver's electric performance.

Our next set of trials were introduced by the delightful Wendy (Ally Callaghan), whose jovial humor and simple challenges were a delightful reminder that though our speed and intelligence were being tested, this is ultimately a fun game to be enjoyed. Callaghan's blunt art critiques were a scene highlight. It then took a few minutes for the recipient of our email grift to respond, likely due to the show's time balancing which keeps the speedier teams from racing off into a scene occupied by another team.

Once we got the green light, the orange team was off to a bar — though not the one you're thinking — to help the cunning Danny (Joe Pallister) scam some cash out of the unsuspecting bartender. But first, we had to prove our worth in a test of intelligence that was surprisingly difficult but oh-so-satisfying once we solved the equation. Pallister's performance came across natural, effortless, as if not playing a character at all.

We then met Eloise (Rachel Feldman) at, probably the most exclusive of the rendezvous points, for two fairly easy tasks: find some clues and play along. It was during the second portion, the actual grift, when we met The Hammer (Eddie Kassar) himself and things grew tense. Eloise was trying to bait and schmooze The Hammer while hiding her obvious tell, and the whole time, he was emanating a commanding, distrustful aura, seemingly ready to call her bluff at any moment. The two actors played off each other's energy wonderfully and gave the most dramatic performances of the show, which was certainly welcome considering this particular grift largely consisted of sitting and watching the riveting scene play out.

For the last of our trial grifts, we arrived at Jackie's (Elena Faverio) meeting place, where we encountered our most difficult task yet. And it was then that we realized losing was, quite literally, not an option. Having failed to solve the puzzle in the allotted time, we were given bonus time and failed that, too. The merciful Jackie had to basically give us the answer, which may have bruised our egos a bit, but it didn't deter us from facing part two of their challenge. We failed this one too, though not for lack of intelligence. Ready to pull a fast one on the poor sap who called the number I provided, I soon realized I had no cell service, and a workaround solution was implemented. Despite this challenging penultimate scene, it was a personal favorite due to the bubbly charm that Faverio brought to their infectiously gleeful character.

After everything we had faced, it was finally time for all teams to return to Bay Street for Fare Thee Well. As we all got settled in anticipation for the climax, each team talking among themselves, The Hammer made his return, more intimidating than ever. It was up to the teams to work together and remember key info learned throughout (hint: the email received) to take him down. And what a satisfying conclusion it was.

All in all, *The Grift* is a fun, beguiling adventure from start to finish. The story puts a unique spin on local history, the adventure offers a behind-the-scenes tour of Sag Harbor, the challenges range in difficulty and test a variety of skills, and each actor adeptly balances their roles of colorful character and game guide. It's a rare immersive experience that's not to be missed.

The Grift *continues at Bay Street Theater Thursday, March 31 through Sunday, April 3. For more info and tickets, call the box office at 631-725-9500 or visit baystreet.org.*

Signs of mice at home? Time to hire the real pros.

It's winter, when mice look for warmth indoors. Like your house. They then urinate and defecate all over "their" nest. It's messy and nasty. Not to mention the diseases such as **Salmonella** and **Hantavirus** (which has killed a number of Eastern LIers) they can carry. If you've seen or heard signs of mice, call us now. Don't play cat and mouse with these dangerous rodents. Skip the copy-cat companies and call **Twin Forks Pest Control**, the thorough, thoroughly local professionals.

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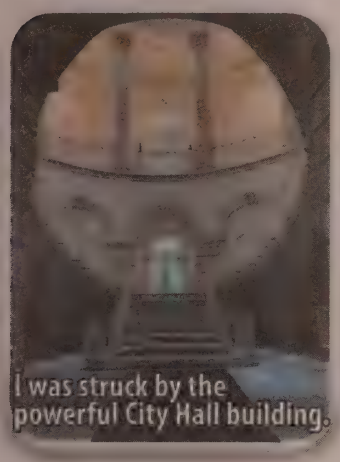
An extraordinary week

What a wondrous world it is to see **Eric Adams** rise to mayor in the greatest city on Earth. I feel privileged to know him!

Last week, I had the honor of visiting the historic and majestic **City Hall** building. Walking through the security "cabin," I was struck by the powerful site of the building, sitting in the middle of **Foley Square**.

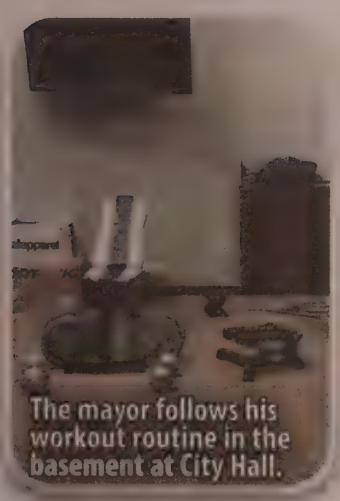

I was struck by the powerful City Hall building.

It's where our mayors and the **City Council** have conducted their business since 1803.

As I walked through the unguarded, striking front doors, I was struck by the towering entrance foyer and the silence of the marble walls.

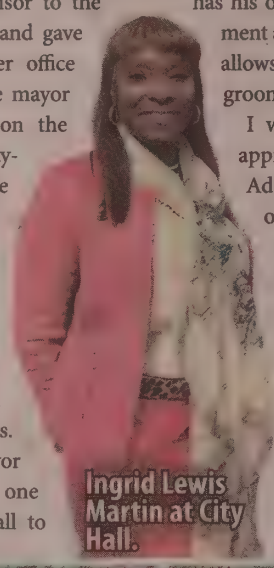
Standing in the massive rotunda, I turned to the right wing of the building where **City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams** has an impressive office. The City Council also has their offices in that wing.

Coming back into the rotunda, when I turned to my left, that is where the mayor's offices are located.


The mayor follows his workout routine in the basement at City Hall.

Walking through the iconic building, it was easy to feel all the history that has been made here.

Ingrid Lewis Martin, a longtime confidante and advisor to the mayor, greeted me and gave me a fast tour. Her office is contiguous to the mayor on one side and on the other side of the mayor's office is an office belonging to **Frank Carrone**, the mayor's chief of staff.

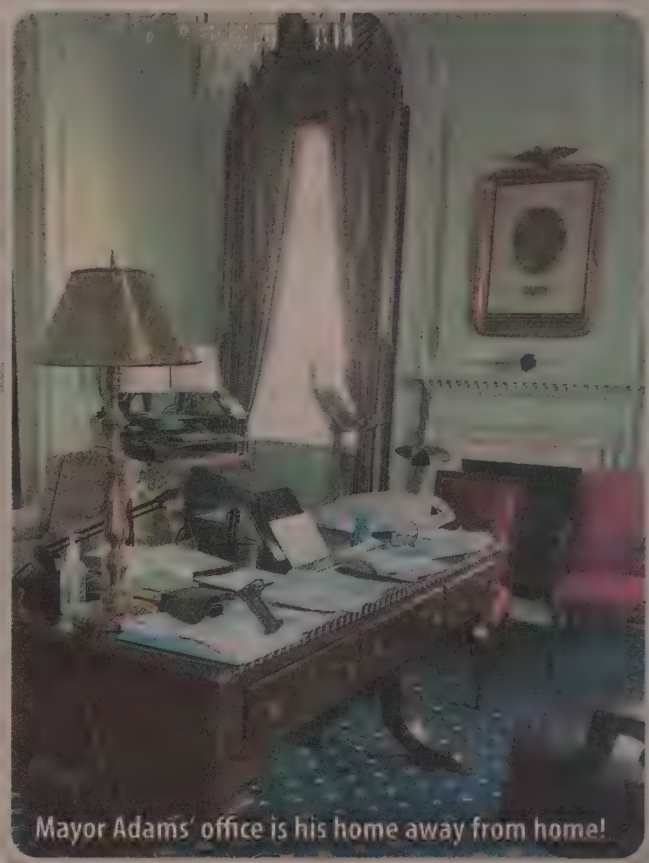

Ingrid Lewis Martin at City Hall.

I shut my eyes and imagined all the powerful people who have passed through their doors. That day, the mayor was racing from one meeting in City Hall to another one outside. But I did get a warm hug in his new "home."

It's actually more of a home office because he's a 24/7 mayor. He even has his own weight lifting equipment and ironing board, which allows him to look perfectly groomed all day, every day.

I was doubly grateful and appreciative that Mayor Adams is totally focused on bringing back our safe streets, something he has repeatedly said is his highest priority!

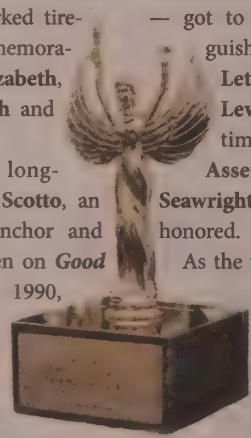
I'm asking all my readers to reach out to their elected city and state officials to help the mayor make us all feel that our city is safe again.


Mayor Adams' office is his home away from home!

A powerful night of Power Women

Last Thursday, I was so proud to present "Vicki" awards to the **Power Women of Manhattan**.

I'm so grateful to my superb events team, who worked tirelessly to create the memorable night. Kudos to **Elizabeth, Demetra, Toni, Joseph** and **Josh Levin!**



My beautiful longtime friend **Rosanna Scotto**, an award-winning TV anchor and journalist who has been on ***Good Day New York*** since 1990, appearing every morning, is beloved by all her fans. Everyone wanted a photo with her!

She walked the red carpet first since she gets up at 3 a.m. every day. I was so happy to recognize her as one of our Power Women and honor her award-winning work!

She had brought her cameraman to the event, and the next morning, I was delighted that they had taken snippets from the event and featured it on her early morning show. Check it out on our websitte, DansPapers.com.

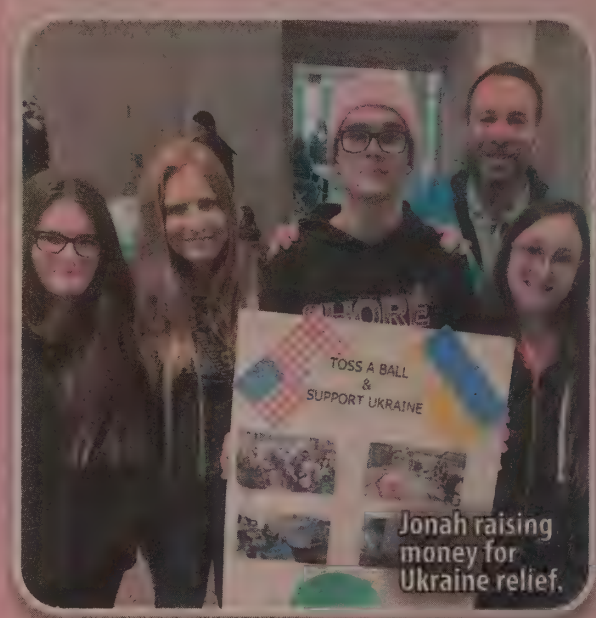
Our diverse group of exceptional women and their guests — all being honored at **Bryant Park Grill** — got to hear from our distinguished **Attorney General Letitia James**, then **Ingrid Lewis Martin** and longtime friend Manhattan **Assemblywoman Rebecca Seawright**, all of whom were being honored.

As the women were introduced to each other during the "Power Hour," I was impressed to hear about each person's unique contributions to our communities.

These women have helped young people achieve their dreams. They are overseeing the rebirth of **JFK Airport**, leading law and lobbying firms and **NYC & Company**, the city's tourism arm. Each is special in their own way, but they share the same drive, ambition and work ethic to make our world a better place!

Congratulations to the honorees!

My heart bursting with pride



Jonah raising money for Ukraine relief.

Last week was the celebration of **Purim**, a Jewish holiday when we remember how Queen Esther saved the Jewish people from genocide.

All Hands and Hearts

There are celebrations and my kids attended a carnival at my daughter **Elizabeth** and my grandchildren's synagogue, **Congregation Tifereth Israel**.

Jonah is about to celebrate his bar mitzvah and, in honor of it, he is raising money for All Hands and Hearts, a group that gives 95 cents of every dollar raised to help the most vulnerable children fleeing Ukraine.

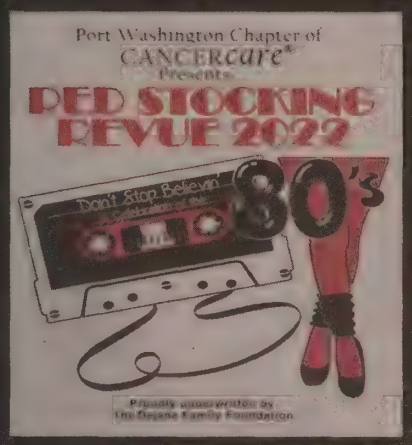
I am so proud of him!

COME SEE OUR SHOW

The 2022 Red Stocking Revue

We're back. The Port Washington Chapter of CancerCare is hosting its annual fundraiser show.

Our theme this year is **"Don't Stop Believing,"** celebrating the culture and music of the 80s!



Show Dates:

April 1–2 at 8PM

April 3 at 2PM

All shows at Schreiber HS

Tickets are available on our website or day of show at the door.

REDSTOCKINGREVUE.ORG

[illegible] will be required to follow COVID protocols. Please check our website for the most updated information and restrictions.

[illegible] national organization that provides financial [illegible], support groups, and more for those with cancer [illegible], and the bereaved.

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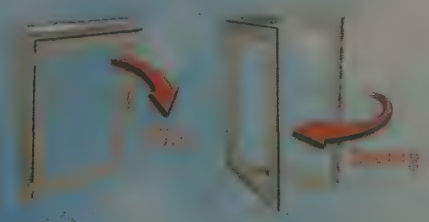

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OUT & ABOUT ON THE NORTH FORK

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.

GETTY IMAGES

GET READY TO BE SERENADED BY EAST END MUSICIAN TODD GROSSMAN OR HANG WITH THE HORSES AT SPIRIT'S PROMISE

CURATED BY REBEKAH YAHOVES

North Fork EVENTS

LIVE SHOWS

HAIG MATHOSIAN AT COREY CREEK TAP ROOM

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 5-8 P.M.

Enjoy live music, a pop-up art show and half-priced tap wines at the tap room at Bedell Vineyards.

45470 Main Road, Southold. 631-765-4168, bedellcellars.com

WINEGO NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 6-9 P.M.

Grab your group of six and head on over to Sannino Vineyard for some bingo and wine. Enjoy a beautiful setting and excellent service.

15975 County Road 48, Cutchogue. 631-734-8282, sanninovineyard.com

BEGINNINGS: CHICAGO TRIBUTE

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 8 P.M.

If you can't get enough *Chicago*, bop on over to The Suffolk Theater, where Beginnings will perform chart-smashing hits from their 50-year songbook. Tickets are $45–$49 and doors open at 7 p.m.

118 East Main Street, Riverhead. 631-727-4343, suffolktheater.com

LOCAL SCENE PAINTING CLASS

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 10 A.M.-NOON

Create a painting based on East End Scenery on your own 8 x 10 inch canvas board. There's a $10 material fee.

53709 Main Road, Southold. 631-765-2077, southoldlibrary.org

TODD GROSSMAN AT JASON'S VINEYARD

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1-5 P.M.

Enjoy the groovy sounds of Todd Grossman while sipping in the serene atmosphere at Jason's Vineyard.

1785 Main Road, Jamesport. 631-238-5801, jasonsvineyard.com

ACOUSTIC SOUL AT CLOVIS POINT

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1:30-5:30 P.M.

Kick back and take in the acoustic rock covers and originals at Clovis Point, where folks rave about the fantastic French wines and beautiful atmosphere.

1935 NY-25, Laurel. 631-722-4222, clovispointwines.com

PROJECT VIBE AT ÜBERGEEK BREWING COMPANY

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2:30-5:30 P.M.

Enjoy Project Vibe's relaxing reggae while you relax with a pint at übergeek Brewing Company. While you're there, check out the bites supplied by Cousin's Maine Lobster

OUT & ABOUT ON THE NORTH FORK

Food Truck.
400 Hallett Avenue, Riverhead. 631-381-0848, ubergeekbrewing.com

CAST COMEDY NIGHT
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 7:30 P.M.
Get ready for a hilarious night of entertainment featuring Marina Franklin, Gerald Lee and Mike Keegan. Beer, wine and some small bites will be served starting at 6:30 p.m.
53930 Main Road, Southold. 631-477-1717, castnorthfork.org

SEA GLASS JEWELRY WORKSHOP
SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 1 AND 2:30 P.M.
Learn to make a pendant from two chains and an assortment of nautical charms at Pindar Vineyards while you enjoy a glass of bubbly. Reservations are required and space is limited.
37645 Main Road, Peconic. 631-734-6200, pindar.net

JULIA KING DUO AT GREENPORT HARBOR BREWING COMPANY
SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2-5 P.M.
Enjoy the sweet acoustics of the Julia King Duo, who blends rock, R&B and soul music. Meanwhile, enjoy delicious, light beers and a laid-back vibe.
42155 Main Road, Peconic. 631-477-1100, greenportharborbrewing.com

ALL IN THE FAMILY CONCERT
SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 4-5:30 P.M.
Don't miss this special friends-and-family concert featuring masterpieces on the piano that include the works of Bach, Chopin, Liszt and Brahams. Admission is free and proof of vaccination is required.
1590 Main Road, Jamesport. 631-722-5170, jamesportmeetinghouse.org

YOGA AT THE LIBRARY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 5:30-6:45 P.M.
If you love to get limber, you won't want to miss this class at the Mattituck-Laurel Library for only $15 per session. You'll work on postural alignment, conscious breathing and deep relaxation. You'll need to bring your own yoga mat or towel.
13900 Main Road, Mattituck. 631-298-4134, mattitucklaurellibrary.org

ADULTS 21+ ROLLER SKATING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 6-8 P.M.
Wheel on over to the Greenport American Legion for your chance to spring into action with a skate rental that's included in your $10 ticket price. Cash only will be accepted at the door.
121 Third Street, Greenport. greenportamericanlegion.org

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

EAST END FOOD MARKET
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 9 A.M.-1 P.M.
Stop by the food market in Riverhead to check out local food, wine and craft vendors, as well as music and activities. Vendors include bakeries, coffee shops and soap companies.
139 Main Road, Riverhead. 631-353-8846, eastendfood.org

HISTORY AT HALLOCKVILLE: SUSTAINABILITY
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 9 A.M.-NOON
Learn about the historic "green" practices used by the Hallock family while you walk the sustainability trail. Tickets are $50 for members and $65 for non-members. Come dressed for outdoor hiking!
6038 Sound Avenue, Northville. 631-298-5292, hallockville.org

HORSE & FARM WALKING TOUR
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 11 A.M.-2 P.M.
Enjoy a hands-on walking experience while you learn about rescued animals, including horses, cows, pigs and chickens. The cost is $15 per person and you'll need to bring shoes suitable for walking.
2746 Sound Avenue, Baiting Hollow. 631-875-0433, spiritspromise.com

VIRTUAL EVENTS

HISTORIC SEASHELL CRAFT: SAILOR'S VALENTINE WORKSHOP
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 9 A.M.-7 P.M.
Pick up your kit at the Riverhead Library and log onto their website to learn about history and make your own seashell craft. The video link will be emailed to you on April 1.
330 Court Street, Riverhead. 631-727-3228, riverheadlibrary.org

BUNNY ON A BOARD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 10 A.M.-7 P.M.
Pick up your materials for a festive bunny on a wooden board, which comes with a YouTube instructional video you can watch at your convenience. There is a $20 material fee.
27550 Main Road, Cutchogue. 631-734-6360, cutchoguelibrary.org

GETTY IMAGES

GET READY TO CRAFT WITH SEASHELLS AT A FUN WORKSHOP!

ART EXHIBITIONS

INVENTING CHILDHOOD
THROUGH APRIL 3
Don't miss the last weekend to view this special exhibition at the Suffolk County Historical Society. View objects from when "modern childhood" began to blossom during the Victorian Era. Toys, dolls, board games and puzzles will all be on display.
300 Main Street, Riverhead. 631-729-2881, suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org

Seeking North Fork photographers, email: **alagreca@danspapers.com** Angela LaGreca, Photo Editor

LIGHTS 'N' GIGGLES
THROUGH MAY 7
Don't miss this impressive exhibition displaying sculptures of glass, metal and upcycled material by sculptor Clayton Orehek and cartoonist Don Orehek. The interactive exhibit also includes cartoons and illustrations. An opening reception will be held on Friday, April 1 from 4–7 p.m.
113 East Main Street, Riverhead. 631-727-0900, eastendarts.org

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.

OUT & ABOUT IN THE HAMPTONS

GETTY IMAGES

HOW MANY SEALS CAN YOU SPOT AT CUPSOGUE BEACH?

CURATED BY REBEKAH YAHOVES

LIVE SHOWS

LIVE MUSIC AT COWFISH FEATURING VICTORIA KOCHETOVA

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 6-9 P.M.

Enjoy some scrumptious seafood, heavenly views and lovely music Friday nights at Cowfish. Victoria Kochetova is a singer-songwriter with a blues style.

258 East Montauk Highway, Hampton Bays. 631-594-3868, cowfishrestaurant.com

THE GRIFT: A PRACTICE IN THE ART OF DECEPTION

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 1-3

Sneak on over to the Bay Street Theater's website to purchase tickets for one of these exciting shows. Participants, otherwise known as audience members, will meet characters, solve clues and get a master class in taking down a criminal mastermind. Tickets are from $39–$99.

1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-9500, baystreet.org

INDIGENOUS ART & POETRY PRESENTATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 6-8 P.M.

Enjoy the fine art of Indigenous artists as well as a community reading of Joy Harjo's *An American Sunrise*. The program is co-presented by Ma's House and NEA Big Read Long Island.

159 Old Point Road, Southampton. 631-566-0486, mashouse.studio

Hamptons EVENTS

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

CUPSOGUE SEAL WALK

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 8 A.M.-5 P.M.

Observe, photograph and learn about Long Island's beautiful seals. Donations are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 18. Wear warm, waterproof shoes and bring your binoculars!

975 Dune Road, Westhampton Beach. cresli.org

MONTAUK POINT ELECTRIC BIKE TOUR

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 9 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Join this invigorating off-road adventure for intermediate bikers. You'll meet your e-bike team at the Montauk LIRR Train Station and get fitted for your Gazelle Ultimate c380 e-bike. You'll pedal on over to the Fort Hill Overlook for incredible views before heading to the Camp Hero State Park and the Montauk Lighthouse.

1 Fort Pond Road, Montauk. 631-657-2200, electricbikesagogo.com

VIRTUAL EVENTS

OYSTERS AND THE CITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

When Henry Hudson arrived in New York Harbor in 1609, he discovered more than 220,000 acres of oyster beds below the water. They quickly became a staple of the New York diet and bordered on extinction, but they are making a comeback thanks to oyster lovers and conservationists. The event is free and you can join by clicking on the Zoom link.

2478 Main Street, Bridgehampton. 631-537-0015, myhamptonlibrary.org

SHERIDAN'S HARD HITTERS: THE SOUTHAMPTON MEN OF THE NEW YORK CALVARY'S CIVIL WAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 11 A.M.

Thirty-two men joined the 6th New York Cavalry during the Civil War. The excellent New York fighting force was known as "Sheridan's Hard Hitters." This lecture is presented by the Southampton History Museum. Register ahead of time for Zoom info.

17 Meeting House Lane, Southampton. 631-283-2494, southamptonhistory.org

ART EXHIBITIONS

OUTCROPPING: INDIGENOUS ART NOW

ON VIEW THROUGH APRIL 9

Don't miss this special exhibition at the Southampton Arts Center featuring the works of Shinnecock artists along with Indigenous artists from a wide array of sovereign nations throughout the United States. The exhibition will address native issues throughout the United States, including individual triumphs and struggles.

25 Jobs Lane, Southampton. 631-283-0967, southamptonartscenter.org

RB COLLABORATIVE

DISCOVER "OUTCROPPING" AT SOUTHAMPTON ARTS CENTER.

VOLUNTEERS OF GUILD HALL 2022 ONLINE EXHIBITION

ON VIEW THROUGH APRIL 15

Don't miss your extended opportunity to view the artwork of Guild Hall's volunteers online. Many artists sell at local and major galleries and have their own websites.

631-324-0608, guildhall.org

STUDENT EXHIBITION

THROUGH APRIL 24

View the work of over 600 talented artists from regional schools on Eastern Long Island. Media includes painting, sculpture, drawing and textiles.

279 Montauk Highway, Water Mill. 631-283-2118, parrishart.org

OUT & ABOUT WITH THE KIDS

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.

CURATED BY REBEKAH YAHOVES

GETTY IMAGES

IS YOUR KID NATURALLY FUNNY? HONE THEIR COMEDY SKILLS AT A SPECIAL WORKSHOP THIS WEEK.

TOP 5 FAMILY EVENTS TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK

BE AN ARTIST!

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1-2 P.M.

Kiddos in grades 2 and up can join the Art Nanny at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. They can create an original work of art with a displayable frame.

18 James Lane, East Hampton. allevents.in/mobile/amp-event.php?event_id=10000272245081367

PRINCESS TEA PARTY

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 10 A.M.-NOON

Your little princess can dance and sing with all of her favorite Disney princesses at the Long Island Aquarium. Formal white-glove service will include sandwiches and sweets.

431 East Main Street, Riverhead. 631-208-9200, longislandaquarium.com

COMEDY CLASS AT THE FLANDERS YOUTH CENTER

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 4-5:30 P.M.

Your kiddo in grades 3–8 will learn how to write jokes and funny stories, build confidence and overcome stage fright. The program involves six Tuesday night classes and culminates in a performance. Registration is $20.

655 Flanders Road, Flanders. 631-702-2425, southamptontownny.gov/youthbureau

BABY PLAYTIME

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 10-11 A.M.1

Join this informal meet-up for caregivers and young children at the John Jermain Memorial Library. Your tots can play in the Children's Department, read stories and make crafts. The event is free and no registration is required.

201 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-0049, johnjermain.org

UNICORN CRAFT

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 4-5 P.M.

If your little one from ages 7–10 can't get enough unicorns, they will love doing this simple cardboard craft at the East Hampton Library. Advanced Registration is required.

159 Main Street, East Hampton. 631-324-0222, easthamptonlibrary.org

Find more events online at DansPapers.com/Events

FAMILY FUN ATTRACTIONS ON THE EAST END

THE ALL-STAR

Beyond your typical bowling experience, The All-Star offers options like Hyperbowling, which is an impressive blend of electronics, lights and sensors that will take your kiddos' games to the next level. There's also an all-American grill with burgers, pizzas and drinks for all.

96 Main Road, Riverhead. 631-998-4234, theallstargrill.com

BRIDGEHAMPTON CANDY KITCHEN

Enjoy the "old-school diner" vibe at this Hamptons family favorite. Tasty breakfasts, ice cream sundaes and reasonable prices all get rave reviews from parents and mini diners.

2391 Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton. 631-537-9885

GREENPORT CAROUSEL

This historic carousel is over 100 years old and a great place to visit with the kiddos if you're in the neighborhood. It's currently open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

36 Third Street, Greenport. 631-477-2200, villageofgreenport.org

JOHN PAPA'S CAFE

This classic luncheonette is a scrumptious choice when you've got little diners. Enjoy a tempting variety of Belgian waffles, pancakes and omelets for breakfast. Or splurge on tasty burgers or pita pizzas for lunch.

18 Park Place, East Hampton. 631-324-5400, johnpapascafe.net

LA FONDITA

Locals know this is the place to visit for authentic Mexican "street food," including tacos, burritos and quesadillas. The eatery also serves breakfast on the weekends from 10 a.m.–noon.

74 Montauk Highway, Amagansett. 631-267-8800, lafondita.net

LT BURGER

A classic with Hamptons locals and visitors alike, LT Burger is especially well known for its kid appeal. With video games, gumball machines and crayons at the ready, little ones can choose from a fine selection of burgers and shakes. The eatery is open for lunch and dinner every day except Tuesday.

62 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-899-4646, ltburger.com

MAIN ROAD BISCUIT CO.

Kiddos who love a good pancake won't want to miss this East End favorite. Seasonal pancakes are made from scratch and served with delicious homemade items like buttermilk biscuits, jam and smoothies.

1601 Main Road, Jamesport. 631-779-3463, mainroadbiscuitco.com

SIP'N SODA

Don't miss homemade ice cream, malteds and milkshakes right here on Long Island. There are also melt-in-your-mouth breakfast and lunch options like grilled cheese and French toast that kiddos will be flippin' for.

40 Hampton Road, Southampton. 631-283-9752, sipnsoda.com

SOUTH FORK NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Introduce your curious child to the wonders of nature through recreated natural habitat exhibits, floor-to-ceiling murals and touch tanks with sea stars, crabs and urchins. The museum is open seven days a week from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

377 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton. 631-537-9735, sofo.org

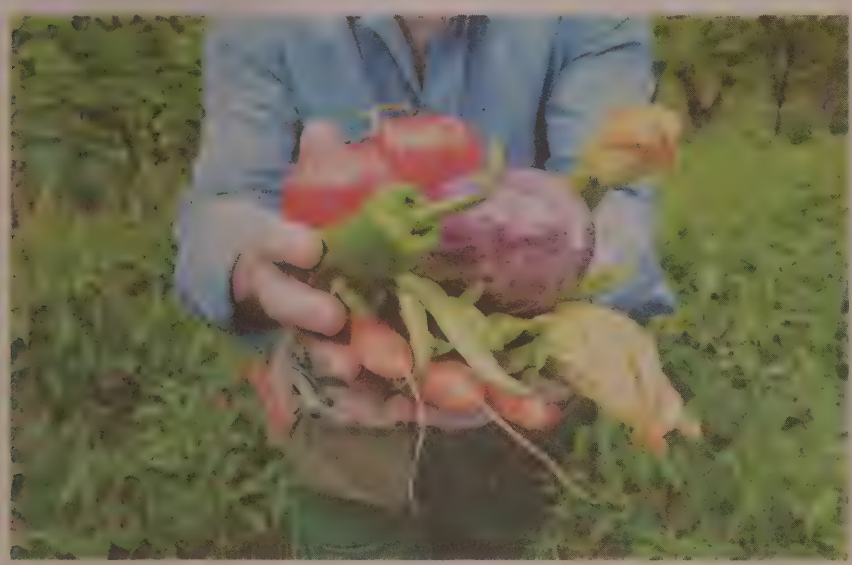
SOUTHAMPTON GOLF RANGE

Check out this 18-hole mini-golf course complete with batting cages and a driving range. You can also stop by the snack bar for some classic burgers and fries.

699 County Road 39, Southampton. 631-283-2158, hamptonminigolf.com

FOOD & DRINK

R.aire Opening, Amber Waves Farm Shares & More



GETTY IMAGES

WHEN YOU LIVE THIS CLOSE TO BUCOLIC FARMLAND, ORGANIC CUISINE IS A MUST-HAVE.

BY HARRY POWERS

This week's recipe is of the cocktail variety: the Spicy Rita, concocted by **K Pasa** owner David Hart. He's sharing this mouth-puckering recipe to help home mixologists enjoy their margaritas in the comfort of home. But before things get too spicy, let's take a look at this week's East End foodie news bites.

R.aire at The Hampton Maid is opening its doors for the first time on Friday, April 1. Chef Alex Bujoreanu has created a Spanish influenced menu featuring tapas and authentic paella, as well as local fish and seafood. The menu is complimented with a curated global wine list and custom craft cocktails. Dinner service will be offered Tuesday through Saturday, 5:30–9:30 p.m. along with The Hampton Maid's popular six-course chef tasting menu, served Friday and Saturday, which changes weekly.

Amber Waves Farm in Amagansett is now offering small shares (six to nine items) in addition to full shares. This year, they are also offering add-on shares consisting of homemade soups, pesto, salad dressings and more. They have full and small share pricing with nine various lengths of terms — Memorial Day through Thanksgiving, one for the month of August, another from July Fourth through Labor Day. And in case you wonder, they follow the organic regulations outlined in the Northeast Organic Farmers Association Pledge, using sustainable soil-building practice and natural fertilizers. They do not use synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides.

Ready to mingle and munch again? Well, get your tickets now to **Taste the Greats** on April 21 on the waterfront at The Piermont in Babylon. Meet top South Shore chefs and taste their creations while enjoying views of Great South Bay, vino and live music. General admission tickets include unlimited tastings, unlimited wine, cocktails and craft beer from 7–9 p.m. VIP tickets include all the above with exclusive tastings and sips as well as an afterparty from 9–10 p.m.

Did You Know That: The **Montauk Circle** is open for lunch and dinner? Look for surf 'n' turf on Thursdays, Rock 'n' Bingo on Wednesdays (with unlimited chili and cornbread for $10) and taco 'n' margarita Tuesdays featuring six fish or veggie tacos and a pitcher of house margaritas for $50.

Food Quote of the Week: "I was eating in a Chinese restaurant downtown. There was a dish called Mother and Child Reunion. It's chicken and eggs. And I said, I gotta use that one." ~ Paul Simon

Got a restaurant news item or tip? Email us at dansfoodseen@gmail.com!

Recipe: K Pasa Spicy Rita with Togarashi Rim

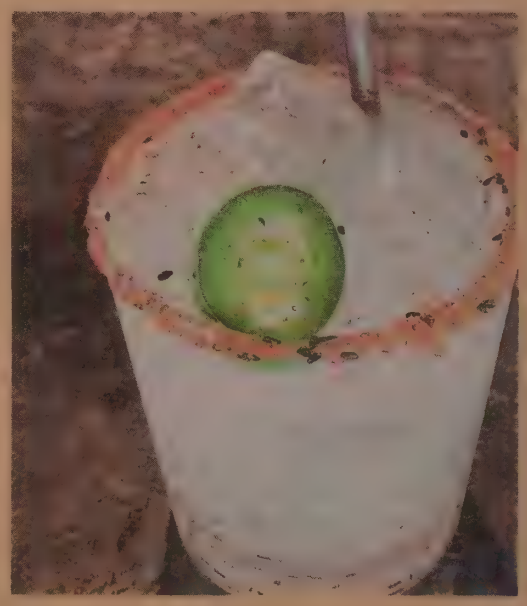
Ingredients:
2 Jalapeños
1 Serrano Pepper
1 Bottle of Hornitos Plata Tequila
1/2 Oz of Agave
1/2 Oz of Naranja
1 Oz of Lime Juice
1 Tbsp of Orange Zest
2 Tbsp of Chili Flakes
2 Tbsp of White Sesame Seeds
2 Tbsp of Black Sesame Seeds
1/2 a sheet of Nori

Directions for Infusing Tequila:
1. Chop the Jalapeños and Serrano Pepper and add them to a glass pitcher with the entire bottle of tequila.
2. Let the pitcher sit at room temperature for 10–12 hours, preferably let it sit for 2–3 days. The longer you let it sit, the spicier the tequila gets.

Directions for Togarashi Rim:
1. In a skillet, add the white and black peppercorns and lightly toast the spices for about 3 minutes. Set aside to cool.
2. In a coffee grinder, add the chili flakes, orange zest, white sesame seeds, black sesame seeds, and nori and pulse three times until coarse.
3. Transfer to a dish and set aside.

Directions for Constructing the Margarita:
1. Run a lime wedge around your cocktail glass and dip in the Togarashi seasoning. Set aside.
2. In a cocktail shaker, add the infused tequila, agave, Naranja, and lime juice and shake until chilled, roughly 15 seconds.
3. Fill the cocktail glass with fresh ice and strain in the margarita. Garnish with a lime wedge and jalapeño slice. Enjoy!

~ This recipe comes to us courtesy of K Pasa in Sag Harbor, 1-800-taco.com



COURTESY K PASA

K PASA SPICY RITA WITH TOGARASHI RIM

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DAN'S TASTE: FOOD & DRINK

Something to Wine About:

Clovis Point 2017 Vintners Select Merlot

BY LINDA DELMONICO PRUSSEN

Looking for another amazing red to enjoy on these chilly spring evenings? Look no further than the 2017 Vintners Select Merlot from Clovis Point in Jamesport. While listed as a single varietal, it is actually another Bordeaux-style blend with 80% merlot, 8% cabernet sauvignon, 6% cabernet Franc, 5% malbec and 1% petit verdot.

Winemaker John Leo says, "The smooth, plush feel of merlot benefits from the structure of cab sauv, the forward plumpness of cab Franc, the mouth-filling roundness of malbec and the verve of petit verdot. Together, the blend is a composition of elegance and depth."

He adds, "My goal in crafting Clovis Point wines is to first make wines that I and the Clovis owners are happy to drink and proud to serve. We agree that we won't bottle a wine that we don't find satisfying to drink ourselves."

With this wine, he far surpassed that goal. The nose is resplendent with cherry and coffee. This dry, medium-bodied, wine is earthy with lovely notes of bittersweet chocolate. The fresh cherry finish is long and persistent.

A wine buyer might wonder how something labeled as a merlot can still be a blend. Quick wine tutorial: Here in the United States, for the most part, a wine needs to be 75% of a varietal to be labeled as that single varietal. There are rare exceptions like the state of Oregon, where their most widely grown grapes, such as pinot noir, (which Oregon is famous for), pinot gris, chardonnay and pinot blanc need to be at 90%. This is called varietal labeling.

In Old World wines, most labeling is done by region and referred to as regionally labeled. The reason regional labeling is done in Old World wines is twofold:

First, Old World wines are terroir-based. The goal in these wines is that you are drinking the essence of the land at a particular time, and the vine and grapes are simply the conduit through which that essence reaches your glass.

The second is that there are laws governing which grapes can be in a region's wine. For example, if you are drinking a red Burgundy, you are drinking pinot noir. If you are drinking a red Bordeaux, you are drinking one varietal, or a blend of merlot, cabernet sauvignon, cabernet Franc, malbec, petit verdot and — though less likely — carmenere.

The Clovis Point's 2017 Vintners Select Merlot retails for $49.

To learn more about Clovis Point wines, visit clovispointwines.com.

CLOVIS POINT'S 2017 VINTNERS SELECT MERLOT

"Superior Sushi, One-of-a-Kind Steaks and Amazing Ambience..."
Dan's Papers

"Pore over the approachable steak menu skillfully curated by chef Scott Kampf and chef de cuisine Mark Fasciana while you sink blissfully into the refined supper club ambiance...."
Hamptons Modern Luxury

"The lively restaurant in the heart of Southampton provides impeccable dishes and a sensational atmosphere..."
Times Square Chronicles

"an array of prime meats and cooked seafood in a sophisticated atmosphere..."
Eater New York

"Union Sushi and Steak is exactly what the Hamptons has needed quite some time..."
East End Taste

"Union Sushi & Steak manages to fuse the energy of a supper club from the days of old with a modern ambience in a COVID-friendly atmosphere, as curtains adorn every table, providing a cabana-like dining experience while keeping everyone safe..."
Food & Wine

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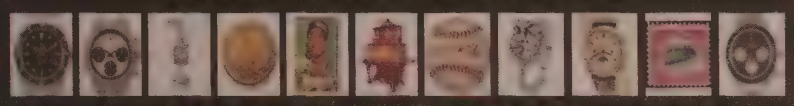

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EAST END LIVING

Hop to It:

Hamptons & North Fork Easter Egg Hunts Return

BY DAVID TAYLOR

Easter is just around the corner, coming this year on April 17, and East End children are eager to celebrate with egg hunts galore. Kids in the Hamptons actually have three weekends to choose from, with the Easter Bunny's hunts spread out from April 2 to Easter Sunday. North Fork tykes will have to celebrate on Easter weekend unless they can convince a parent to take them on a Hamptons egg hunt. However, your family decides to celebrate Easter 2022, here's "hopping" it's one to remember!

THE EASTER BUNNY AT SOUTHAMPTON INN

HAMPTONS

EGG HUNT FUNDRAISER FOR HBVAC

When: Saturday, April 2, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Where: HBVAC, 18C Ponquogue Avenue, Hampton Bays

What: Why not do a little fundraising this Easter? Support the Hampton Bays Volunteer Ambulance Corps (HBVAC) with the $10 entry fee to this fun event featuring pictures with the Easter Bunny, food, music, games and, of course, an egg hunt. The hunt is split up by age group: ages 2–8 from 11 a.m.–noon and ages 8–14 from 1–2 p.m. The rain date is the following Saturday, April 9. Email Rob at rscott@hbvac.org with questions. *631-728-4706*

EASTER BIG DUCK EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 2, noon

Where: Big Duck Ranch, 1012 Flanders Road, Flanders

What: Children ages 2–9 can hunt for hundreds of fun-filled plastic eggs, as well as three special eggs that award gift baskets to the lucky kids who find them. The Long Island Duck Farming exhibit at the Victorian Barn is open for the first time this year, and Mother Goose will make an appearance for the occasion. Admission and parking are free. *631-852-3377, bigduck.org*

THE GREAT EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 9, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Where: Good Ground Park, 9A Squiretown Road, Hampton Bays

What: The Hampton Bays Chamber and Southampton Town Parks & Recreation invite the community to take part in an egg hunt for ages 10 and under, face painting, raffle drawings, photo ops, DJ dance party and chamber giveaways. And it's all free. *631-728-2211, hamptonbayschamber.com*

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT BLOCK PARTY

When: Saturday, April 9, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Where: South Bay Bible Church, 578 Montauk Highway, East Moriches

What: Just a short way past Westhampton, South Bay Bible Church's Easter egg hunt and block party welcomes the community to enjoy bounce houses, carnival games, a petting zoo, pony rides, prizes, concessions and more. *631-909-8241, southbaychurchli.org*

LVIS EASTER EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 9, 11 a.m.–noon

Where: LVIS, 95 Main Street, East Hampton

What: The annual Ladies' Village Improvement Society (LVIS) of East Hampton Egg Hunt always attracts a large crowd of eager kids, parents and grandparents. Younger children scurry around a designated area seeking candy-filled eggs, while the big kids search the rest of the LVIS grounds for thousands of eggs. Prizes are given to those who find one of the elusive golden eggs, and the Easter Bunny is always present for photo-ops at this free event. *631-324-1220, lvis.org*

GURNEY'S MONTAUK EASTER WEEKEND

When: April 14–17

Where: Gurney's Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa, 290 Old Montauk Highway, Montauk

What: Gurney's Montauk has plenty of kids activities to keep the young ones entertained on Easter weekend — festivities include an Easter egg hunt, egg coloring station, special Easter Bunny appearance, kids crafts, cookies decorating class, ice cream bar, lawn games (weather permitting) and more. An Easter brunch buffet is offered 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and costs $55 per kids, $125 for adults. *833-235-7500, gurneysresorts.com/montauk*

HAMPTON LIBRARY ANNUAL EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 16, 10–11 a.m.

Where: Hampton Library, 2478 Main Street, Bridgehampton

What: Join Hampton Library staff and other families for games and an Easter egg hunt on Hampton Library's grounds. Children of all ages are welcome at this free event. *631-537-0015, hamptonlibrary.org*

EGG HUNT AND FARM FEEDING

When: Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m.–noon

Where: The Green School, 287 Merchants Path, Sagaponack

What: Children ages 1–13 are invited to head over to the Green School for a morning packed with an eco-friendly egg hunt, pony rides, a crafts table, a photo booth, farm animal feedings and tasty snacks for people, too. Online registration is $65 per child, $20 for adults, and there is a $25 fee to park on the farm. *631-237-1148, the-green-school.org*

SOUTHAMPTON INN EASTER EGG HUNT & BRUNCH

When: Sunday, April 17, 10 a.m.

Where: Southampton Inn, 91 Hill Street, Southampton

What: The annual egg hunt at Southampton Inn returns, as does Easter Brunch at Claude's Restaurant, which is offered 7 a.m.–3 p.m. and includes the popular a la carte menu as well as traditional holiday specials. Brunch can be enjoyed before or after your children enjoy the egg hunt, but reservations are recommended. *631-283-6500, southamptoninn.com*

NORTH FORK

ANNUAL GREENPORT EGG ROLL

When: Saturday, April 16, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Where: Mitchell Park, 115 Front Street, Greenport

What: Join the Greenport Business Improvement District, the Easter Bunny and the Big Blue Duck for one of two free festive egg hunts and other activities in the park. The first hourlong hunt is for children ages 2–5 and takes place at 10:30 a.m., and the second hunt is intended for kids ages 6–7 and starts at 11:30 a.m. *greenportvillage.com*

SFID EASTER EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 16, 1 p.m.

Where: St. Gabriel's Meadow Preserve, east corner of Burns and Cartwright roads, Shelter Island

What: The Shelter Island Fire Department's annual egg hunt, sponsored by the SIFD Ladies Auxiliary, returns this year to offer fun and prizes to boys and girls up to age 8. In the event of rain, the event takes place same time on Easter Sunday. *631-749-0184*

EASTER BRUNCH AND PENGUIN EGG HUNT

When: Sunday, April 17, 10 a.m.

Where: Long Island Aquarium, 431 East Main Street, Riverhead

What: Now is the time to visit Long Island Aquarium, because admission grants kids access to the adorable Penguin Egg Hunt and all the prizes and candy that entails. Then enjoy a delicious Easter brunch in the waterfront Sea Star Ballroom, featuring traditional brunch fare, a craft station for the kids and a visit from the Easter Bunny! Seatings are at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. and reservations are required. *631-208-9200, longislandaquarium.com*

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EAST END LIVING

Life's WORC Celebrates 50 Years of Helping People With Autism

VICTORIA SCHNEPS PROTESTING THE CONDITIONS AT WILLOWBROOK STATE SCHOOL

Victoria Schneps is a dynamo of devotion and a catalyst for change for the needs of individuals with autism, developmental disabilities and special needs. For over a half century, Schneps has made it her life's work to support Life's WORC, an organization that she founded 50 years ago — and the tens of thousands of lives that they have positively impacted, cared for with dignity, and improved their quality of life.

For Schneps, her passion began with personal experience. Her daughter, Lara, suffered brain damage and seizures in her infancy. As a devoted parent, she first sought a cure for her daughter's injuries, a search that later evolved into one for quality care. She located the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, which was able to accept Lara in their Infant Rehabilitation Center.

It was Willowbrook that changed Schneps' life, and it was Schneps who then changed the lives of countless individuals with special needs. Schneps, at the time a public school teacher in New York City, started Life's WORC, an acronym for Women's Organization for Retarded Children, as an advocacy, fundraising and volunteer organization. With the organization's foundational meeting hosted in Schneps' living room, Life's WORC — founded primarily with neighbors and friends with healthy children who wanted to help — sought to aid the facility.

"They all felt compelled to volunteer because they were blessed with healthy children, many saying, 'There but for the grace of God, go I,'" says Schneps.

However, shortly thereafter, New York State instituted significant budget cuts to the programs for this vulnerable population. With new limitations of resources came drastic negative impacts to the quality of care. Seeing firsthand the deplorable conditions at Willowbrook, Schneps and the women of Life's WORC turned from volunteers into picketers and protestors, to bring change.

"We started a women's organization to help volunteer and raise money for Willowbrook," Schneps recalls. "About a year after we started our efforts, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller slashed the budget. With these slashes came drastic changes in the quality of care. These people at Willowbrook were helpless, like my daughter. They were living in conditions that were unsuitable for anyone — especially those, like my daughter, who required around-the-clock care to be fed, to be diapered and bathed."

The facility was forcing children and others into tragic conditions that were both unsanitary and inhumane. At the same time, a young journalist was made aware of the problems arising at Willowbrook, thanks to Schneps. That reporter was Geraldo Rivera, who set his sights on telling the stories of the families and individuals at the facility — an exposé that would shock the world.

"I connected with Geraldo Rivera and he was snuck into the facility by a doctor who worked there," Schneps says. "People were actually dying and Geraldo recognized the sad and tragic conditions that myself and many like me were going through, as our family members were helpless. Geraldo's recognition of the importance of this story is why he is forever linked with our movement, our advocacy, and is a real champion for the needs of this community."

Meanwhile, Schneps' husband, an attorney, encouraged the families of Willowbrook to file a class action lawsuit against the facility, in concert with the American Civil Liberties Union. This legal effort was successful, bringing long-awaited justice to those involved.

"There was the hostility that we faced, but thankfully, the parents association of Willowbrook won the

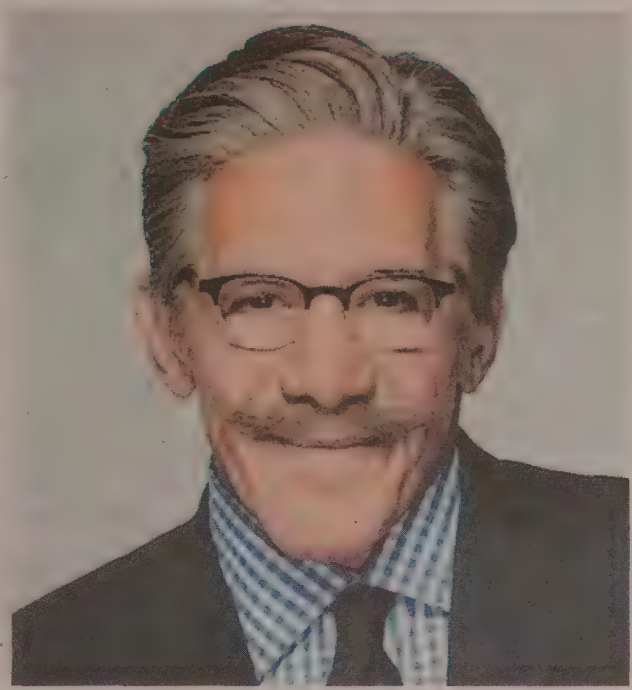
lawsuit," says Schneps.

The shutdown brought awareness and sunlight to a system in desperate need. And, with the innovation of trained care professionals and the leadership of Schneps on the issue, Life's WORC launched the state's first-ever group home for children with special needs in Little Neck, Queens — with half of the residents coming from Willowbrook and others from the Queens community. This facility would soon become a model used across the state for humane and adequate care for this vulnerable population.

"Following the lawsuit, it paved the way for new laws on the books to allow for a new concept, embraced by the care providers of this vulnerable community, known as group homes," Schneps says. "We laid the groundwork to revolutionize the industry, bringing dignified care to these individuals, while leaving the large-scale wards in the past. What this did was, it allowed group home settings to become lifetime homes for individuals with special needs, with peers and friends, activities and recreation. When we purchased the first group home, there was resistance in the community, and we won the case in Queens Supreme Court that ruled that group residences have rights to be in R1 and R2 residential neighborhoods."

The state now funds group home settings, where qualified and certified caregivers with expertise, knowledge, education and training all contribute to the quality-of-life and independence-focused care model.

"Our biggest challenge, on the industry-wide level, is continuing to fight for New York State to properly staff and fund group homes," Schneps states about where advocacy has been most impactful of late. "Many people in our community involve intense, personal care, which is costly, but critical. Group residences provide a warm home, where individuals can take pride in the progress they are making on a daily basis, and expand their personal horizons."



GERALDO RIVERA

VICTORIA SCHNEPS

While her involvement may have started 50 years ago, the advocacy continues for Schneps, whose life has been dedicated to bringing support for Life's WORC. In recognition of her efforts, Life's WORC will be honoring Schneps at their 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala scheduled for April 1, alongside Geraldo Rivera. The sold-out, star-studded gala is slated to take place at the Garden City Hotel.

Funding has poured in from many of New York's most notable, including but not limited to a $50,000 donation from honoree Rivera and his current and former Fox News Channel colleagues. Top-rated news anchor Sean Hannity donated $50,000, as did former host Bill O'Reilly. Various other Long Islanders and New Yorkers have opened their wallets, and their hearts, to give to a cause that continues to thrive after five decades of changing lives for the better. Also contributing the maximum donations are the Koufakis family, the Rogan family, Subaru of America and the Manes Peace Prize Foundation.

"Life's WORC has become my life's work, literally," Schneps says, "preventing atrocities like Willowbrook from ever happening again. It takes vigilance, it takes a commitment of a whole community, and it takes the generosity of those who are willing to support our cause. The support that Life's WORC has gotten for our 50th Anniversary Gala is more than just overwhelming and humbling, but a statement that we remember Willowbrook, and we care to make sure that this never happens again.

"This 50th Anniversary Gala is really a celebration of people living with dignity in this vulnerable community, in comparison with what happened in the past," she continues. "It's a celebration of a new chapter that began with the bravery and courage of a few, and the dedication of many more to make sure that what happened in the past is never forgotten."

Schneps says that Life's WORC now operates 50 group residences, day programs and family centers for those with autism, and will soon open a job-training employment center.

"The Family Center for Autism in Garden City is offering art classes, music classes, cooking classes — all things that develop life skills for individuals," Schneps adds. "At our family centers, we are helping not just those with autism and special needs, but also their families, with counseling and other resources."

Schneps is now a community newspaper publisher, owning and operating 88 newspapers in the New York metropolitan area, with her son, Josh Schneps. That began in 1985 with her flagship publication *The Queens Courier*, but now includes such papers as *amNew York Metro*, the *Long Island Press* and *Dan's Papers*, serving New York City, Long Island, Westchester and Rockland counties, Philadelphia and Palm Beach County.

Schneps says her inspiration to join the news media was the reporting done by Geraldo nearly five decades ago, which gave a voice to the voiceless and taught her the power of the press in affecting change.

"I found purpose in publishing," Schneps says. "Our publications are the beacons of reporting by which New Yorkers and people around the world gather information and make informed decisions, find opinions and become inspired to act.

"While I see this as my job, my love and devotion is, and will always be, helping people with developmental disabilities and autism overcome challenges and live fulfilling lives," she concludes. "That is my mission, and I am proud of all those who work with me towards this goal."

For more, visit lifesworc.org.

ELIZABETH, LARA AND VICTORIA SCHNEPS

WEDDING GUIDE

Ask the East End Experts: The Dream Wedding Team

BY HAND CATERING

BY HAND CATERING'S BY HAND POURS TRAILER

There are many factors that can determine whether a wedding is remembered fondly, and the menu is a big one. Liz Werkmeister of By Hand Catering shares some thoughts on getting the dishes and drink just right.

What menu offerings would you say are By Hand Catering's most popular with North Fork and Hamptons clients, and do you have any predictions as to the summer 2022 favorites?

North Fork and East End clients want their affair to really be an experience of the area. Most of our clients really want almost every item to be locally sourced, using ingredients that are in-season at the moment. A style that seems to be trending for 2022 is the cocktail-style reception. A lot of our brides and grooms want to pull away from the traditional sit-down or buffet-style receptions and are opting for themed stations throughout the night.

How does the By Hand Pours Trailer elevate the outdoor wedding experience?

This has been one of the best additions to our brand! Everyone loves that Instagramable moment — and the By Hand Pours trailer is just that. It's fun, memorable addition to any event.

In addition to the food component, what is one key element of a perfect catered wedding, and how can By Hand Catering help with that?

Definitely execution in both the planning process and the day of. We are with our clients every single step of the way. We make sure our clients have full access to us the months leading up to their event, and we have true professionals leading the day and executing a perfect event.

For more, visit byhandcatering.com.

GOLD COAST VALET

THE FRIENDLY GOLD COAST VALET TEAM

When planning a wedding, a couple would be wise to consider whether valet service would be a good idea. Derek Thomas of Gold Coast Valet discusses the benefits.

What is one sign that a wedding/reception venue would benefit from valet parking?

One sign that an event or venue would benefit from our services is when the parking area is either complex or far from the reception/ceremony. We curate a remarkable first and last impression, and ensure that the guests of our client have a smooth and safe arrival and departure to the venue.

How does valet service add to the overall experience of a wedding?

With Gold Coast Valet, you know that you are hiring a group of parking professionals who are well-groomed, mannered and trained in both hospitality and vehicle management. We allow your guests one less worry when arriving to a new establishment, and allow your guests to feel pampered from start to finish.

Is there one service Gold Coast Valet offers that clients are often surprised to learn about?

One service our clients are surprised to hear about is event consulting. We work with some of the top security, transportation and shuttling firms so our clients can have one less worry. We believe it is a benefit for vendors at an event to have synergy with each other and have experience working together in the past.

For more, visit goldcoastvaletny.com.

LESSING'S INC.

THE VINEYARDS AT AQUEBOGUE

The Hamptons and North Fork offer many gorgeous wedding venues, and Lessing's Inc. owns two of the best. Kate Wiggins of The Vineyards at Aquebogue describes the Lessing's experience.

What factors should couples consider when choosing between Lessing's East End wedding venues, and what makes each one special?

Lessing's operates two main East End venues: The Vineyards at Aquebogue and 360 East at Montauk Downs. Both venues offer beautiful scenery and breathtaking sunset views. Each venue is unique in its own way. The Vineyards includes a bountiful North Fork Farm to Table Station, highlighting local farms and suppliers. The Vineyards also has an all-season cocktail patio, acres of property for photos, and a lush vineyard for guests to enjoy. 360 East has a wraparound patio for cocktail hour that offers amazing views of Montauk sunsets.

What does Lessing's most all-inclusive East End wedding package look like?

While all Lessing's venues include an abundance of delicious food, unlimited beverages, seasoned wait staff, upscale linens, chairs and flatware, The Vineyards has an all-inclusive vendor bundle that can be added on to any wedding. The bundle includes a highly-recommended DJ, florist, photographer, transportation, wedding cake and a vintage ice cream bicycle for a cool favor!

What is one key element of a perfect East End wedding that couples sometimes overlook, and how can Lessing's Inc. help with that?

We always advise our couples to consider their guests and how they can make a destination weekend out of their wedding. The North Fork and Montauk both have so much to offer, from winery tours and farm stands, to pristine beaches and delicious local lobster rolls.

For more, visit lessings.com.

NANCY'S TAILORING & ALTERATIONS

WEDDING DRESSES IN NEED OF NANCY'S TAILORING

At many weddings, the wedding dress is the star of the show, so it needs to fit perfectly. Nancy Nano of Nancy's Tailoring & Alterations shares how she accomplishes the perfect fit.

How many appointments does it usually take to get a dress or suit to fit perfectly on wedding day?

When it is the wedding dress, we have three appointments and the dress is ready. But that is making sure that the bride is satisfied until her wedding day, because regularly a few days before the big day, they lose weight due to nerves.

What do Nancy's Tailoring formalwear parties include, and how many can participate in one party?

A wedding brings many guests — papa, mama, bridesmaids, groomsmen and invited guests. I can arrange formalwear parties for ladies and gentlemen where all the measurements are taken at the same time in my studio.

What wedding dress styles are popular at Hamptons summer weddings, and have you noticed any other dress or suit trends?

It is a bit traditional, plus the fashion mix of white and ivory with a lot of silk, organza laces, a lot of emotions, feelings and illusions that I love in every wedding. For men: tuxedos and linen shirts.

For more, visit nancytailoring.com.

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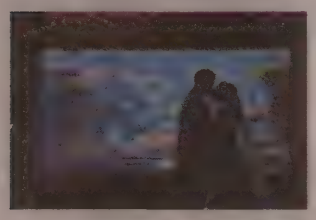
WEDDING GUIDE

Ask the East End Experts: The Dream Wedding Team

ATLANTIS BANQUETS & EVENTS



A COUPLE WED AT LONG ISLAND AQUARIUM

Wedding planning can be stressful, but it doesn't have to be. Darlene Puntillo of Atlantis Banquets & Events explains.

What makes the varied AB&E spaces ideal locations for a wedding?

We truly have a one-of-a-kind setting with our Coliseum room setting featuring our most colorful and captivating aquatic displays within the Long Island Aquarium, plus we have a more traditional yet still elegant and beautiful Sea Star Ballroom which overlooks the Peconic River. Having the Hyatt Place and The Preston House & Hotel on property provides accommodations for wedding parties and guests alike. Atlantis Banquets & Events offers options for rehearsal dinners, after parties, as well as post-event brunches. ...

What do AB&E wedding package include?

All wedding packages include cocktail hour, four-hour reception, five-hour open bar, wedding cake, valet parking and a dedicated bridal attendant, as well as place cards, direction cards and maps. Our smallest package is our Sweetheart Package which is all-inclusive and includes all of the aforementioned, plus a DJ, photographer and florist. This package is good for 100 guests and available in the Sea Star Ballroom on specific dates. So it's a great, affordable option. We have several other packages which include different upgrade items like additional food stations and event enhancements that can be added to any package like upgraded linens or GOBO lights.

What is the secret to an unforgettable, stress-free AB&E wedding?

We have experienced wedding professionals on the sales staff to help you through the process of choosing a venue and a package to suit your needs. Our chef will work with you to provide customized menus. Our event planning department will detail your wedding, and the day of the event, a dedicated bridal attendant will be assigned along with a captain and maître d'. We host weddings just about every weekend of the year, so our experienced staff understands how stressful wedding planning can be, and we do our best to help our couples navigate the treacherous wedding planning waters in the best and easiest way possible. ...

For more, visit atlantisbanquetsandevents.com.

SPERRY TENTS HAMPTONS

A TENT BY SPERRY TENTS HAMPTONS

The common question of indoor or outdoor wedding often overlooks an optimal third option: a tented wedding. Steve Clarke of Sperry Tents Hamptons discusses the benefits of throwing some shade on your special day.

What are the signs that a couple's wedding/reception vision could work better as a tented affair?

If possible, the family home is often a preferred option. So many important life events have happened over the years at the family home that hosting a wedding there becomes and obvious choice for celebrating this important day. If the family property is not large enough to accommodate the event, an alternate location nearby is a great option. Sperry Tents often help families find the best venue for their needs.

What are the perks of adding a tent to a planned outdoor wedding?

This is very obvious. At a minimum, tents should be reserved for inclement weather to ensure that everyone stays dry during the ceremony, cocktails and the reception. Without tents or an indoor option on site, it will be a very uncomfortable night for all concerned. Most events feature a main tent for dinner and dancing and coverage for cocktails and ceremony are on "rain reserve."

What options are available when looking to customize a tented affair?

At Sperry Tents, we focus on providing beautiful sail cloth tent canopies, flooring, stage for a band and service tents for caterers and other vendors. We also provide options for elegant lighting packages. Our primary role is creating the environment for the caterer, florist or event designer to work their magic. For over 15 years, we've worked closely with the best professionals in the industry to produce stunning events!

For more, visit sperrytentshamptons.com.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT PARTY RENTAL

SOMETHING DIFFERENT'S EVENT SHOPPE IN SOUTHAMPTON

If you're looking for something different while planning your big Hamptons wedding, the area certainly has options. Come to think of it, Seth Stern of Something Different Party Rental may be just the guy to offer some advice on the matter.

How does Something Different's Event Shoppe in Southampton make a difference in the services you're able to provide to Hamptons clients?

Our Special Event Shoppe is "old school" when it comes to our philosophy of hospitality and hosting events. Our recipe for success is achieving the vision of our clients with our commitment to service excellence and our approach to event execution.

Our name implies we are "Something Different," something exceptional, representing excellence: excellence in the level of service, excellence in the quality and variety of products and excellence in the value of services and products.

When working out the budget of a wedding, which aspect do you think is most worth going "all out" on and how can Something Different help with that?

It all begins with attentive listening to the vision and aspirations of the host to ensure that we achieve, prioritize and manage their vision/expectations within budget. Some prioritize culinary as the most important while for others, it is about the look and feel of event design. For some, it is all about the venue and location and others just want to have fun and focus on entertainment. Every event is "Something Different."

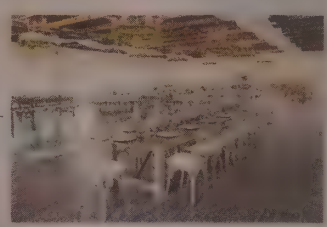
We are a one-stop Special Event Shoppe, utilizing our resource directory of products and services and exceeding expectations at every level of budgeting. Bottom line: From soup to nuts, make us your first stop!

What are some ways Something Different goes the extra mile to make a couple's wedding day a truly magical experience?

It's about leadership and teamwork, commitment and knowledge, skills and abilities, but mostly it's being dedicated to the joy of life. It's about making the host and guests feel special from beginning to end — loving it every step of the way!

For more, visit somethingdifferentparty.com.

THE BOATHOUSE SHELTER ISLAND



THE BOATHOUSE SHELTER ISLAND

Hamptons or North Fork wedding? Both are great options, but couples who don't at least consider Shelter Island are missing out. James Brantuk and Megan Young of The Boathouse Shelter Island discuss the area's incredible wedding potential.

What makes Shelter Island an ideal destination wedding spot, even for residents of Long Island?

Shelter Island is a hidden gem of its own. The vibe from the atmosphere you feel just by taking the ferry to the island. It feels like its own destination minutes away from home on Long Island.

Once a couple chooses The Boathouse Shelter Island as their venue, how involved is your team with the rest of the planning details?

Our team is involved every step of the way from the day you book the venue to the day after your event. We are attentive to every detail to ensure your day of event goes perfectly as you planned.

What is one way The Boathouse Shelter Island goes above and beyond to make a couple's wedding day a truly unforgettable experience?

With The Boathouse, you get your dream venue along with a team that feels like family, making sure your day is perfect as you dreamed. Your experience with us will have you visiting shelter island every anniversary years to come, smiling as you think back to your wedding day.

For more, visit boathouseshelterisland.com.

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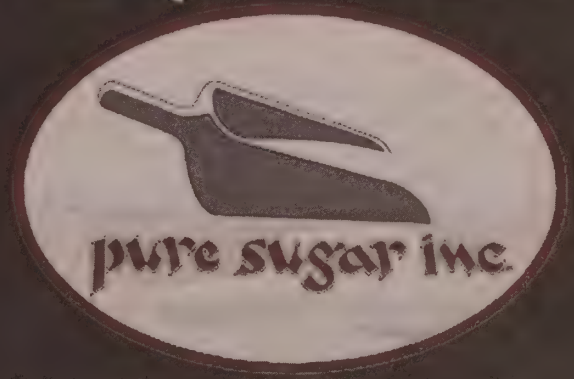

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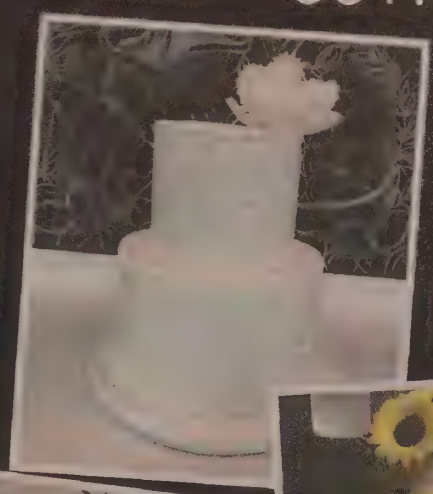

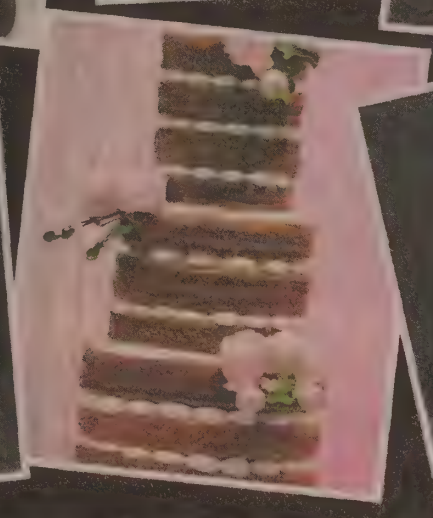

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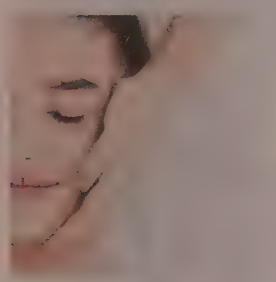
WEDDING GUIDE

Ask the East End Experts: The Dream Wedding Team



THE SPA AND SALON IS A BIG HIT WITH BRIDES

EAST WIND LONG ISLAND

Between booking a venue, caterer and more, wedding planning can be stressful. Charlotte Cote of East Wind Long Island explains how to simplify the process.

With so many wedding services offered, how is EWLI able to provide top quality for each?

When a couple selects EWLI for their wedding, they are receiving more than 45 years of experience from a dedicated family-owned business. ... From world class catering overseen at every venue by our executive chef to white glove service, to the spa and salon creating every bride's vision for a picture perfect day, East Wind is dedicated to creating memories for a lifetime. ...

Between all of EWLI's services, which is the most popular?

East Wind's most popular wedding service would have to be our venue. Truly a destination, our sprawling 26 acres offers couples a choice of settings, both for their wedding and for memorable photos. Our all-new vineyard offers a romantic, rustic setting among the vines; The Estate creates an experience of luxurious elegance and the grandeur of The Inn with its stunning chandeliers and magnificent staircase, all create the perfect setting for an unforgettable day. Our hidden gem would be The Shoppes at East Wind. In this quaint shopping village, couples find a charming setting for countless photos ...

What is the secret to a magical, stress-free wedding?

At EWLI, our professional sales managers really act as your personal wedding planner, being available from the moment you book until your wedding day. The day of the wedding, couples are pampered by a personal assistant and a maître d' dedicated to overseeing their entire day to make it a magical, memorable and stress-free wedding.

For more, visit eastwindlongisland.com.

PURE SUGAR INC.

What's a wedding without a cake? Michael Guasta of Pure Sugar Inc. shares some insights into the sweetest side of weddings.

A PURE SUGAR INC. WEDDING CAKE

For couples in need of inspiration, what are your go-to flavor and design suggestions?

I would suggest keeping the flavors within the season. If it's a summer wedding, lets try a key lime mousse or a mango mousse with fresh raspberries. If it's a fall wedding, I would suggest a carrot cake with my cinnamon cream cheese icing. During the consultation, I always ask what flavors they love and what flavors they hate. I would design their tasting around the flavors they love, and if I see a pattern forming, I'd add some flavors I think they might like, but I want to make sure they don't hate them.

What is the secret to creating a wedding cake that guests are eager to eat, and how can Pure Sugar Inc. help with that?

People eat with their eyes, so we would make the cake look visually stimulating. Then the secret is enticing them with flavors that they wouldn't typically see on the menu for a wedding cake, such as lemon and lavender, pineapple and gingersnap, or key lime and blueberry.

In addition to the wedding cake, what other sweets can Pure Sugar Inc. provide to a wedding or other event?

Pure Sugar will not only provide a wedding cake, but we specialize in dessert tables, edible favors and even a free anniversary cake on your one-year anniversary so you can celebrate with a freshly baked cake.

For more, visit puresugarinc.com.

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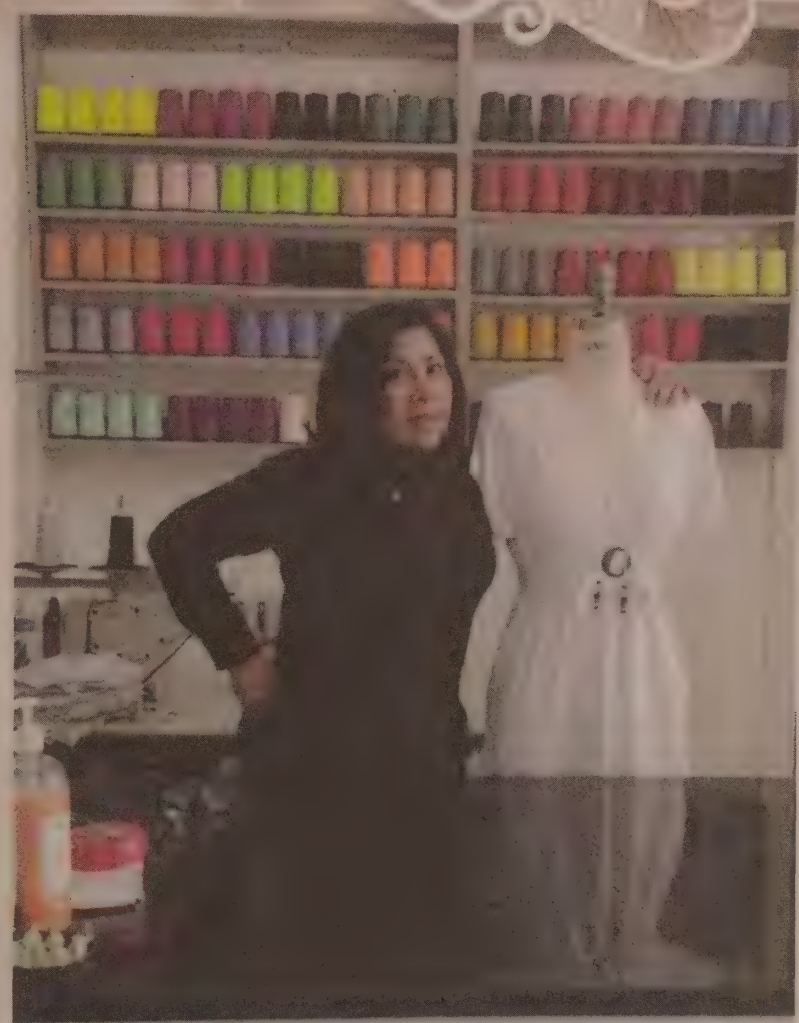

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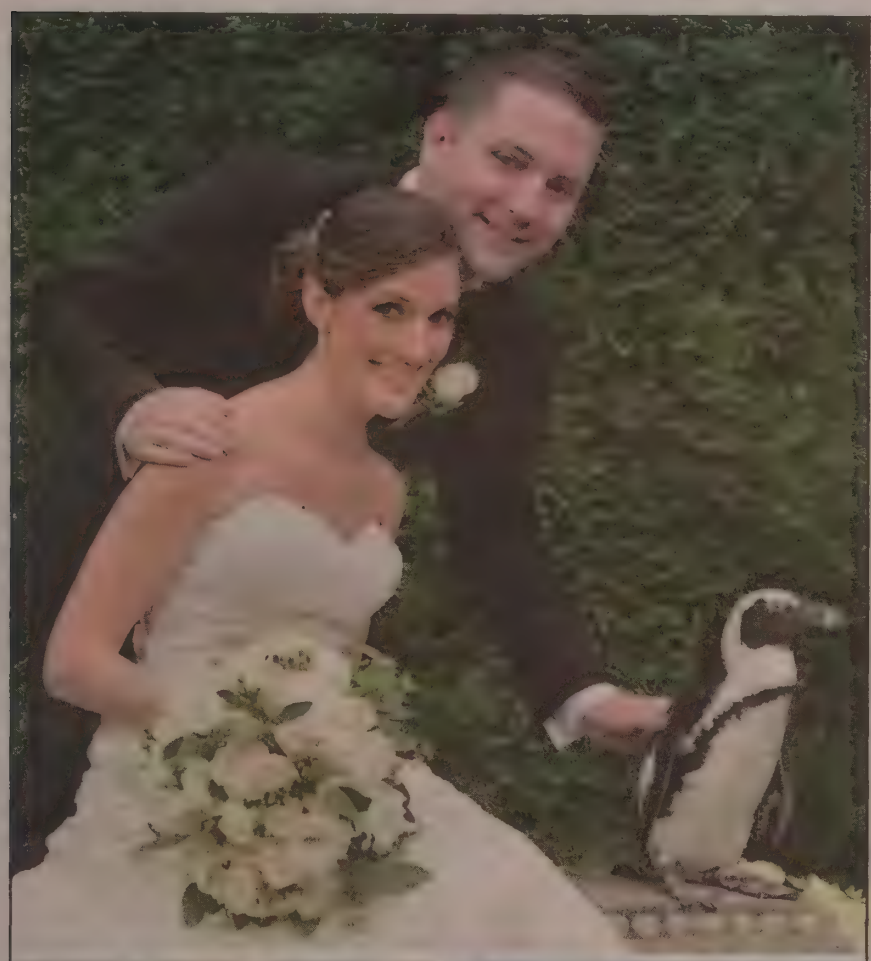

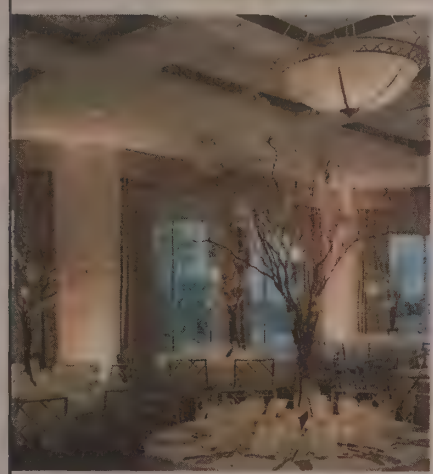

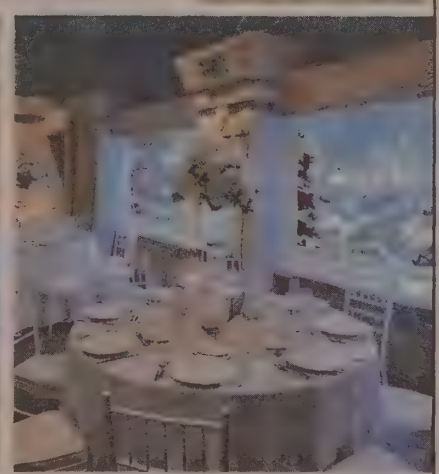

YOUR RESORT DESTINATION AWAITS

Atlantis Banquets & Events features multiple event room choices such as the modern and beautiful Sea Star Ballroom overlooking the Peconic River and Long Island Aquarium setting, with our most colorful and captivating aquatic displays. We have packages designed to fit every budget and room blocks available just next door, making our waterfront resort destination the perfect location for your special event. Whether a formal, traditional affair or a more contemporary party, let our team make your special day, the one you've always dreamed of.

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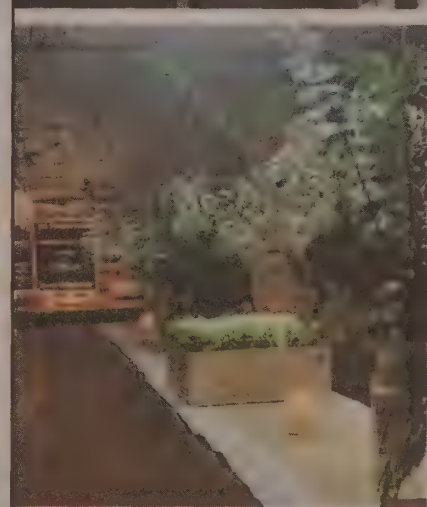

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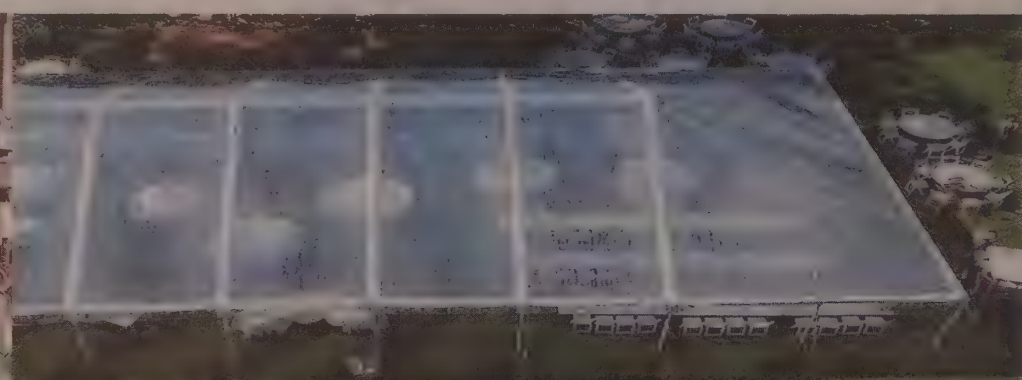

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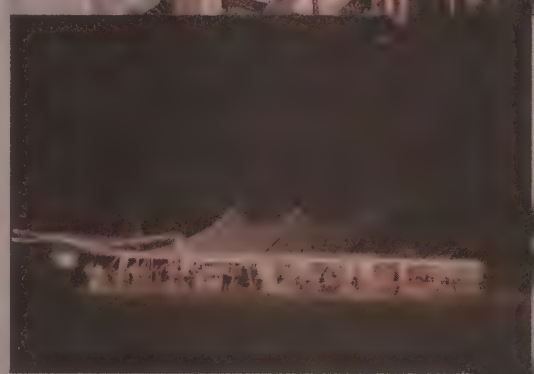

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OUT EAST END

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An Interview With Harvey Fierstein: The Legendary Playwright and Gay Icon on His New Memoir 'I Was Better Last Night'

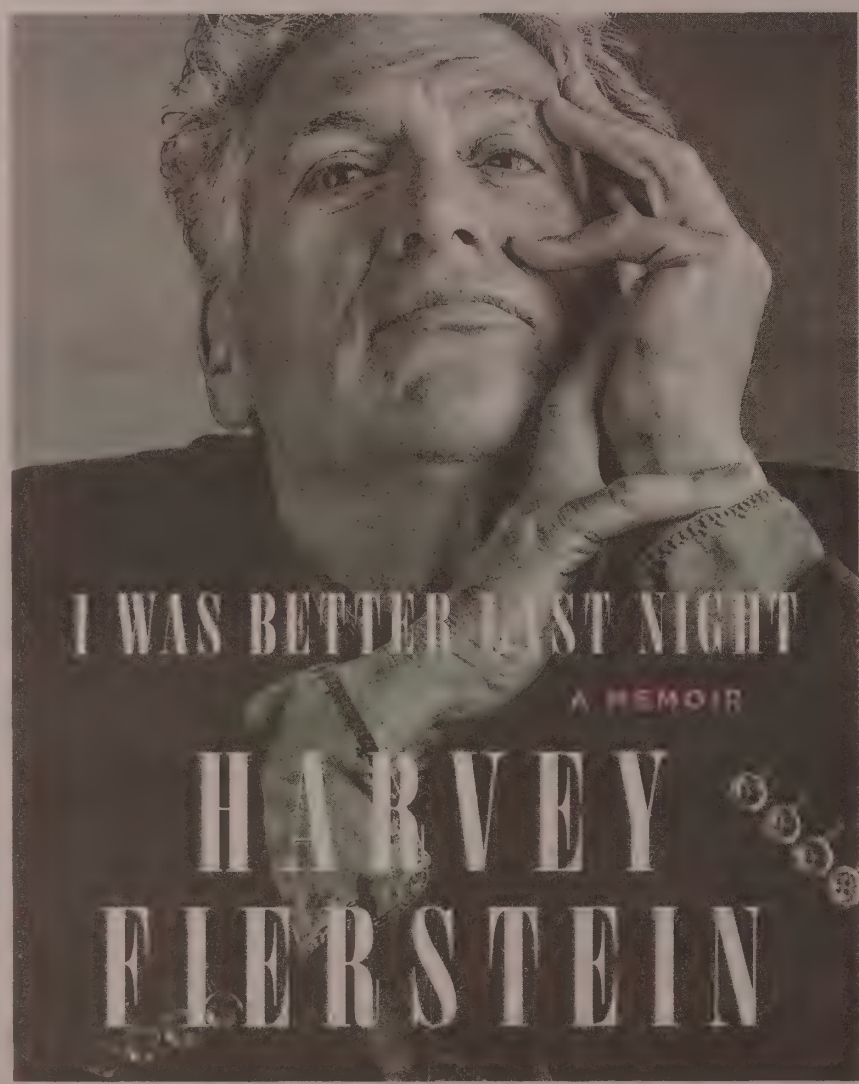
BY ANGELA LAGRECA

Don't be fooled by Harvey Fierstein's book flap, which says he "lives in a small fictional town in Connecticut." He's always up to something. And more often than not, he's being praised for it — the four-time Tony Award-winning author and legendary gay icon has plenty of greatest hits: the ground-changing *Torch Song Trilogy*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Kinky Boots*, *Newsies*, to name a few. This month, a revival of *Funny Girl* with a revised book by Fierstein opens on Broadway at the August Wilson Theatre.

When the pandemic hit, Fierstein cleared his desk of unfinished projects, got back to quilt-making (something he enjoys and does for his friends) and then took on mask-making. "After all that crap," he says, he got on with the business of memoir-making, taking the advice of his agent who said, "Give it a try."

The literary world is better off now that he did. The recently released *I Was Better Last Night* (Knopf/Penguin Random House) is a riotous romp through Fierstein's impactful and entertaining life, from his upbringing in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn as a young Jewish gender-questioning boy ("It was down these streets that I, a self-possessed three-year old, nonchalantly wheeled my baby doll in her carriage") to his triumphs on Broadway with lots of dishy and often hilarious encounters with creatives and Hollywood stars. In between, there's sex, drugs and lots of musical and avant-garde theater. But it's Fierstein's raw, devilish honesty (and his way with a punchline) that draws you in and keeps you glued for 366 pages.

We caught up with Harvey Fierstein via phone about a week before *I Was Better Last Night* came out (it has since landed on *The New York Times* bestseller list) and, as expected, got an engaging earful of anecdotes and inspiration.



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HARVEY FIERSTEIN'S "I WAS BETTER LAST NIGHT"

The book is chock-full of great stories — what did you leave out?

I left out a lot! [laughs] ... The funny part is when you get to the end of the book and you are done and you know you are done, the tap does not shut off, so all the memories keep coming and coming and coming. ... So then I had this idea that I would do a book just about my exes because a few are actually in the book — I changed the names — but I have so many more affairs. ... I started making notes and writing stories about some of my exes, and then I came up with the title of that book: "Bottomless." [We laugh.]

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When you were done writing it — how did you feel, looking back at your life?

I definitely got a great feeling of accomplishment. Writing a book is nothing I ever thought I could do, let alone that I would do it.

It was interesting to read about the twists and turns from your childhood, schooling and what came out of it.

I've always been a little avant-garde, haven't I? [laughs]

Yes, you do make an impression.

Even a play like *Casa Valentina* (2014), which isn't that many years ago, when I did *Casa Valentina* nobody understood heterosexual transvestites (The play is about crossing dressing in the Catskills in the 1960s.). ... Most of our lives the big discussion was a fight about sexuality — we had to fight to say that homosexuality was normal, that this is just another part of the human expression. But the battle was always sexuality. The battle's not sexuality anymore. Well, it is in Florida ...

You write about *Torch Song Trilogy* being proof of the struggle — what do you see as the struggle today?

Now the struggle is gender, really ... we are where we were 30 years ago with sexuality (that's where) we are with gender now. And that's what's frightening the hell out of them, which is why we have the problem we have in Florida — it's because (they think) "It's scary enough these damn homosexuals having their weddings, you know and acting like they're normal. But now Joey up the block is Jolene, and Terry — I don't know what to call Terry — 'they/them?' Oh my God. Don't keep changing the rules on me, I don't know where I am anymore!"

But why do you think it's so threatening — what's the big threat?

That's the threat! Look, they did a very big study years ago ... to see who

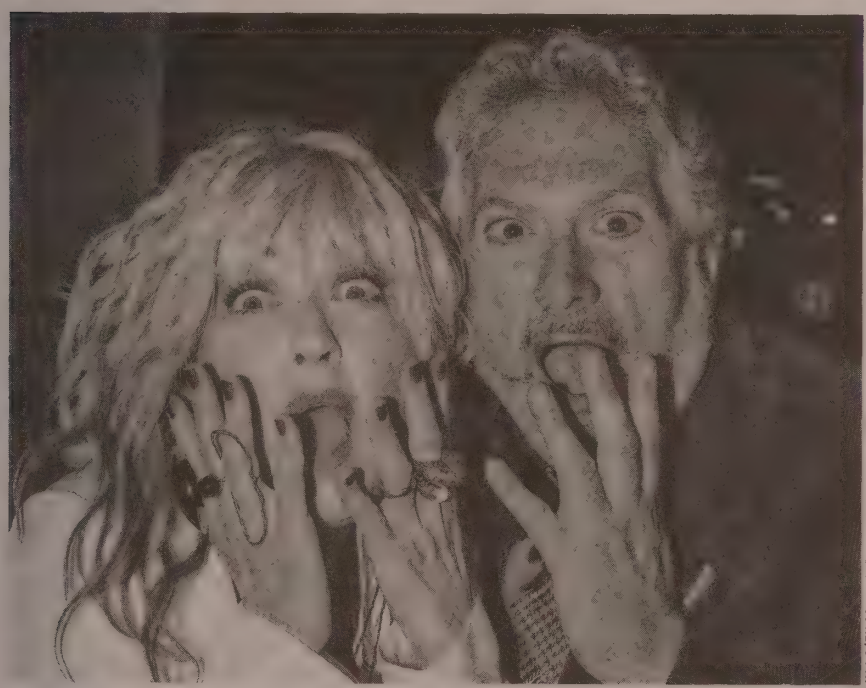
were the happiest people on earth and they found something in common — the happiest people were in a relationship, had a job – not a career — had a job, had a place that they owned, a secure place and believed in God and went to a church or a temple or whatever. .... When you add that all up, those are all people whose lives are settled and done — they have no questions. They don't ask any questions, they know who they are, they know where they belong ... they are happy because they question nothing ... there is nothing frightening in their lives. And then they have to face this world that's changing.

Why do you think this whole movement "Make America Great Again" happened? The active word there is "again" as if you can go backwards. They want to go backwards. They're scared of the future, they're scared of their place in the world, they're scared they're getting old, they're scared they may have to change — nobody wants to change and so "again" is the operative word for them; it's the safe place for them. Any antiques dealer will tell you if you want to become rich, sell people back their childhoods. People want what they already know; they're scared to death of the unknown.

So it's new rules?

Everything that we've ever offered them is rule-changing. We are constantly changing the f---ing rules. First, it's not enough that they have to be gay — now it's he, her, them, this — we just scare the sh-t out of them. ... Look at them, lined up on a bridge between Canada and America screaming that we don't want to take vaccines — and who's their hero? Donald Trump — a man who took the vaccine! How stupid do you have to be to stand there saying, "Donald Trump is my hero," when he can be the exact opposite of what you are saying he did.

Same thing with Meatloaf — a man who said "If I die, I die" and then he f---ing died! These things have no irony — all they are is fear. In my mind, I see them all as dead — dead from the neck up ... they don't want to think and they don't want to engage. ... So when they look frightening to some people — and they look frightening to me in some ways — when they look frightening it's being scared of dead people.



BRUCE GLIKAS/FILMMAGIC

HARVEY FIERSTEIN WITH CYNDI LAUPER ON "KINKY BOOTS," WHICH FEATURES MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LAUPER AND BOOK BY FIERSTEIN. HE SAYS, "WORKING WITH CYNDI WAS A BLAST IN SO MANY WAYS. WE WERE OFTEN ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH."

They are not so dead that they are not acting — there is so much anti-trans legislation. How do you fight that?

You can't go backwards. You can f--k things up but it will get undone. Look at (Senator Chuck) Grassley (R-Iowa) ... all he ever proposes is stuff to take us backwards. Backwards, backwards. They are so scared of living, it's too frightening.

What is the antidote to all the nonsense?

You just keep moving forward, you make sure that you are engaged. You do the opposite of what they do — they don't want to be engaged, they really don't. They don't really want to have to go out and vote for this stuff. So you become engaged and you run your candidates and you keep pushing your agenda and you keep moving forward and you don't listen to them. You try to explain to them what they are frightened of and you try to explain to them as best you can that there is nothing to be frightened of.

So many highlights in your life. What are you most proud of, would you say?

Absolutely nothing sticks out because I'm so glad that I just live my life and I don't sit and give myself awards for this and that. The funny part of writing a book like this is that it forces you to look back — but that's not what I do ... I don't live in my past. I live in my present, hopefully, which is always the way I was, even before I got sober and all that stuff ... being sober you definitely learn to be in the present.

Are there other stories you want to still tell?

Oh, I always want to — at the moment I have seven active projects. There's always stuff to do. If you run out of stuff to do, you didn't get out of bed that day. [We laugh.]

I Was Better Last Night is *is available everywhere books are sold. For more information about Harvey Fierstein, visit harveyfierstein.com.*

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OBITUARY

Legendary Equestrian, Animal Rescuer Patsy Topping Dies at 77

Patsy Topping, the co-founder of Bridgehampton-based Swan Creek Farm, that trained scores of competitive equestrians and who was credited with saving thousands of animals from being euthanized, died on March 14. She was 77.

Topping and her husband Alvin established the 37-acre horse farm and riding school a half century ago on Halsey Lane, where they raised their three children, Jagger, Gretchen and Christian. About 25 years ago, she and her husband began to split their time between Long Island and South Carolina, where they purchased a second horse farm. That's where Patsy was inspired to volunteer as a rescuer, shuttling cats and dogs from Southern shelters to the East Hampton-based nonprofit Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons (ARF) for years starting in 2007.

"A force to be reckoned with, Patsy had a special love and gift with animals," ARF wrote in a tribute to Topping, who rescued unwanted dogs and cats from overcrowded, under-resourced shelters in South Carolina. "Thousands of animals owe their lives to Patsy, and they have filled thousands of homes with boundless love."

Patricia Clarke Topping was born on April 22, 1945 in New Jersey, one of five children to mother Janice Smith and Lawrence Clarke, who led a fish-processing facility in Amagansett before she met her husband and moved to the South Fork full-time.

JONATHON ZIEGLER/PATRICKMCMULLAN

PATSY TOPPING AND CHESTNUT AT ARF'S 2014 BOW WOW MEOW BALL FUNDRAISER

Aside from boarding horses and training riders, Topping was also a competitive rider herself, including in The Hampton Classic, where she was a fixture and in which her farm's students regularly showed. For her rescue work, ARF honored Topping with its lifetime achievement award in August 2021.

Topping is survived by her husband, three children, granddaughter and four siblings. She was interred at Edgewood Cemetery in Bridgehampton. A remembrance will be announced at a later date.

Donations in her name can be made to to the Animal Rescue Fund, 124 Daniels Hole Road #2616, East Hampton, NY 11937, or at arfhamptons.org.

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When looking for a real estate agent, it's smart to hire someone with experience in the neighborhood where your transaction is occurring. So if you're buying, first decide where you want to live before you choose an agent.

REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY

The No. 1 rule when hiring a real estate attorney: Make sure they have experience in real estate. Don't hire the lawyer-relative or friend who has no experience closing a real estate deal.

INSURANCE AGENT

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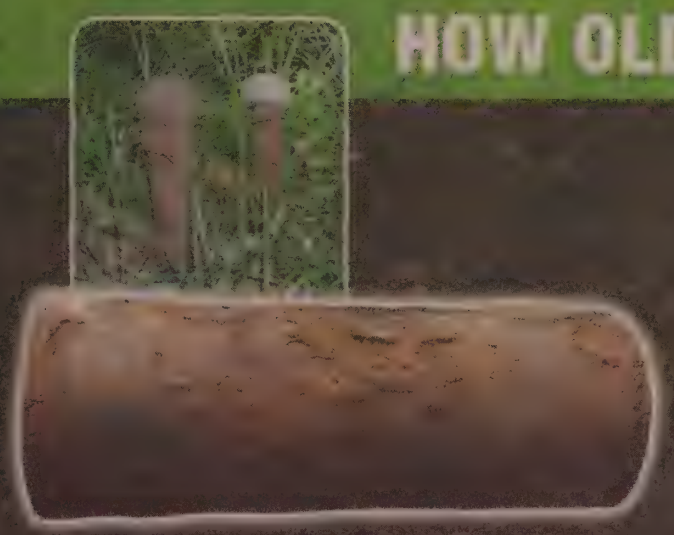

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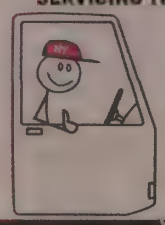

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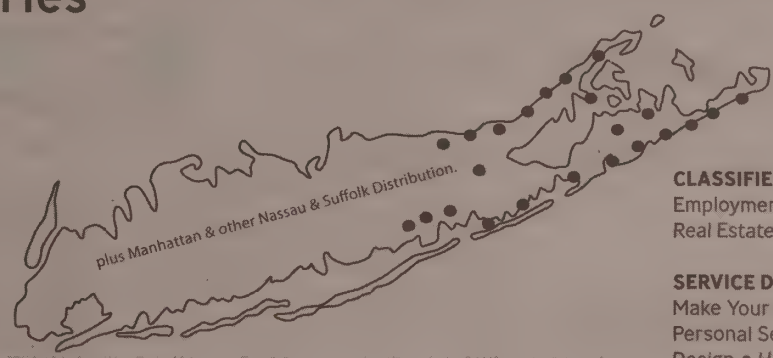

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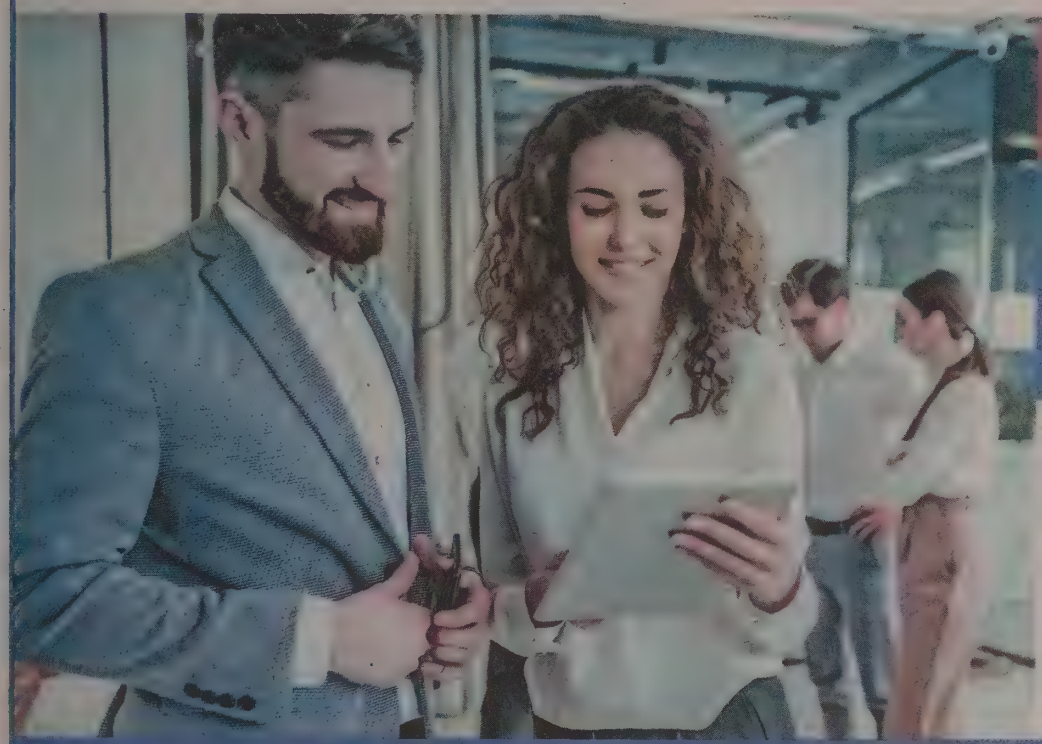

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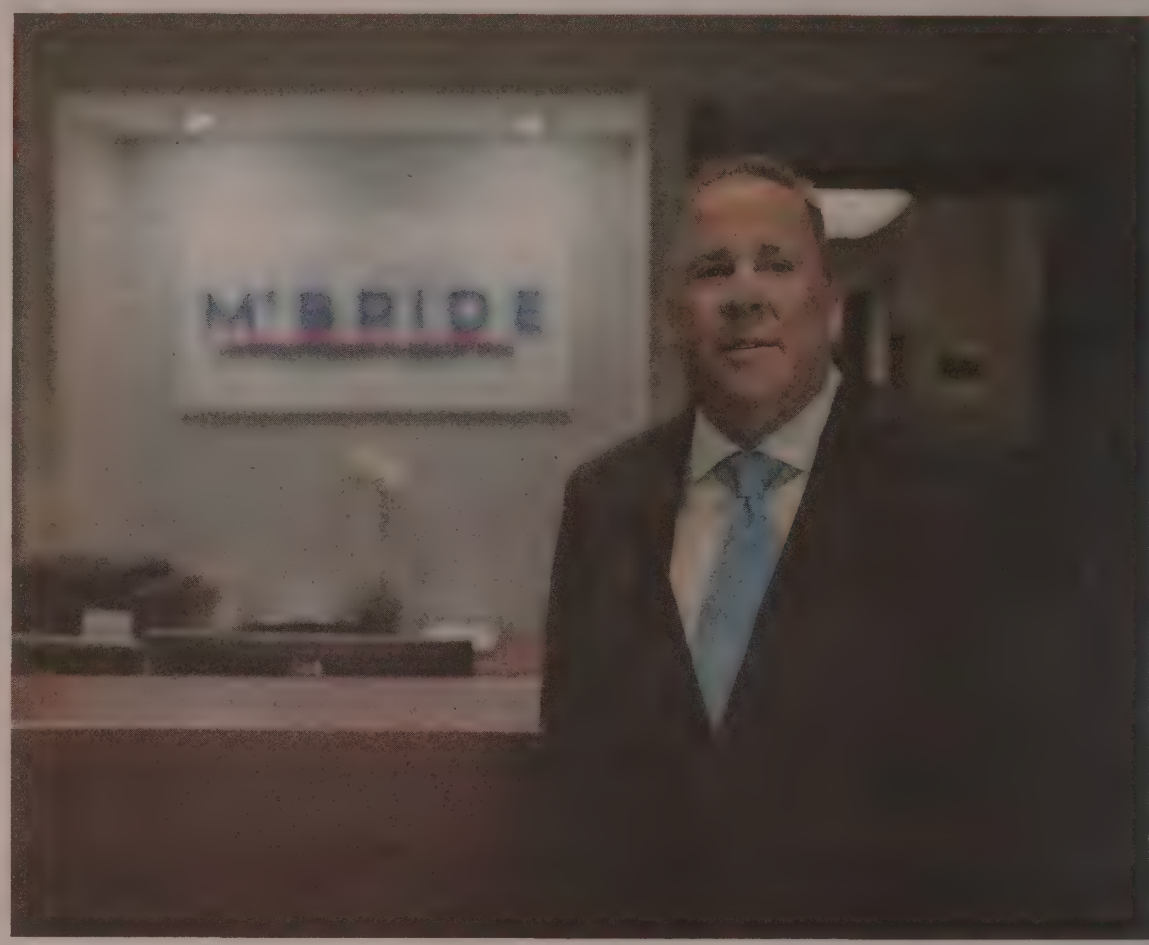
Powerbroker Robert McBride

BY TODD SHAPIRO



ROBERT MCBRIDE

Robert McBride is a natural relationship builder and, perhaps, the most influential business strategist in the State of New York. He holds the ear, and the trust, of many of New York's most powerful decision makers, political figures and business leaders, and he has lived the quintessential American success story.

Born in Bedford-Stuyvesant to Irish immigrant parents, McBride's life story begins like many others. He learned the lessons of hard work and dedication at a young age, a major contributing factor to his current success. Throughout his upbringing, his family moved from Brooklyn to Ozone Park, Queens, and then later to Massapequa, where he still calls home to this day. He spends time in the warmer months in Montauk, an area he's loved since he first casted his fishing line into the water at the age of 19.

McBride's business is lucrative, and his personal success is rooted in the success of his clients. Advising many of the most high-profile business leaders and public-private partnerships, McBride has earned a reputation as the go-to consultant, and a guy who "gets it done."

The founder of his namesake company, McBride Consulting and Business Development, he has locations on Long Island, and various other business epicenters, like Washington, Albany, Denver, Dallas and Toronto. The expansion of his business, he says, is rooted in his ability to develop relationships.

"I consider myself a natural relationship builder," he says. "I run a business that is deliverable-driven, meaning that everyone who works at McBride Consulting is accountable to their clients. We are selective, and only take on those clients in which we believe we can add value and meet their needs, helping them meet their goals."

In his two decades in this industry, his company has expanded in size and in scope. While many know his company as specializing in government relations, he notes that his company is also seasoned in mergers and acquisitions, privatization of government-run business and public-private partnerships.

"The success of our clients speak for itself," he says. "We help identify what the shortfall is in companies, and help the business move forward in a positive way."

McBride's business consulting helps his clients lay the groundwork to reach new heights, overcome obstacles and shakeup industries in the immediate, intermediate and long-term. When he talks about some of the projects in which his company is involved, you can sense his enthusiasm, as someone who is passionate about bettering the community and helping poise his clients for success.

Notably, on the East End, McBride is involved in the Sunrise Wind and Empire Project, a first-of-its-kind endeavor, which will help bring renewable and sustainable energy to over 500,000 Long Island homes. The wind turbine project, McBride says, is something that he is most excited about, as is the entirety of those involved.

"Myself and my team are delighted," he says. "We are very proud of our hard work on this project, and like all of our projects, we are just proud to have played a small part in its success. ... We are there to make a difference, and that's what continues to drive us."

In the time outside of work, McBride says he adores Montauk. He owns a house there, but really considers it a home away from home. He touts his lifelong friendships with everyone from the fishermen, to the local mom-and-pop shop owners that he has known now for decades.

"I love to fish, whether on-shore or off-shore," he says. "It's just a joy being in Montauk. I put away my cell phone and focus on its beauty. I wish I could live there full-time, but when I am there, I cherish the moments. There's just something different about the time spent on the East End."

When McBride's out east, he can most often be found frequenting the community's restaurants and coffee shops. He and his family enjoy spending time at Gurney's, or the Surf Lodge. He emphasizes though, there's just nothing like a Montauk sunset.

"I have done more than I ever expected I would, and I've seen many parts of the world," McBride notes. "I am truly blessed. But, when I watch the beauty of a sunset at Navy Beach, I would put it up against any sunset in the world."

McBride identifies with the Montauk community, and has helped with various endeavors to help preserve the Montauk he knows for the future. He helped raise money for the revitalization of the iconic Montauk lighthouse, crowdsourcing funds for critical repairs needed. He views his efforts as a way he is giving back, and gives him a sense of purpose during his time spent on the East End.

"I really do feel like I am part of the community out here," he says. "If I can afford to give a few extra bucks to the community, that's what I will do, and that's what I will always do. They're not making land anymore, last time I checked, so I feel a calling to help preserve the unique and irreplaceable beauty of Montauk."

It is clear in speaking to McBride that his love and appreciation for family runs deep. He and his wife, Marion, have been married for 39 years. He has three children, with whom he spends time in Montauk.

"To me, family is life," he says. "I can't even describe to you how great it is to have my family, my brothers and sisters, at our home in Montauk. It is just one of those rare times in life that you are completely comfortable, and everyone around you knows you love them.

"I am blessed. If I die tomorrow, I will do so a happy man," he continues. "Every day from this point forward to me is a bonus."

Todd Shapiro is an award-winning publicist and associate publisher of Dan's Papers.

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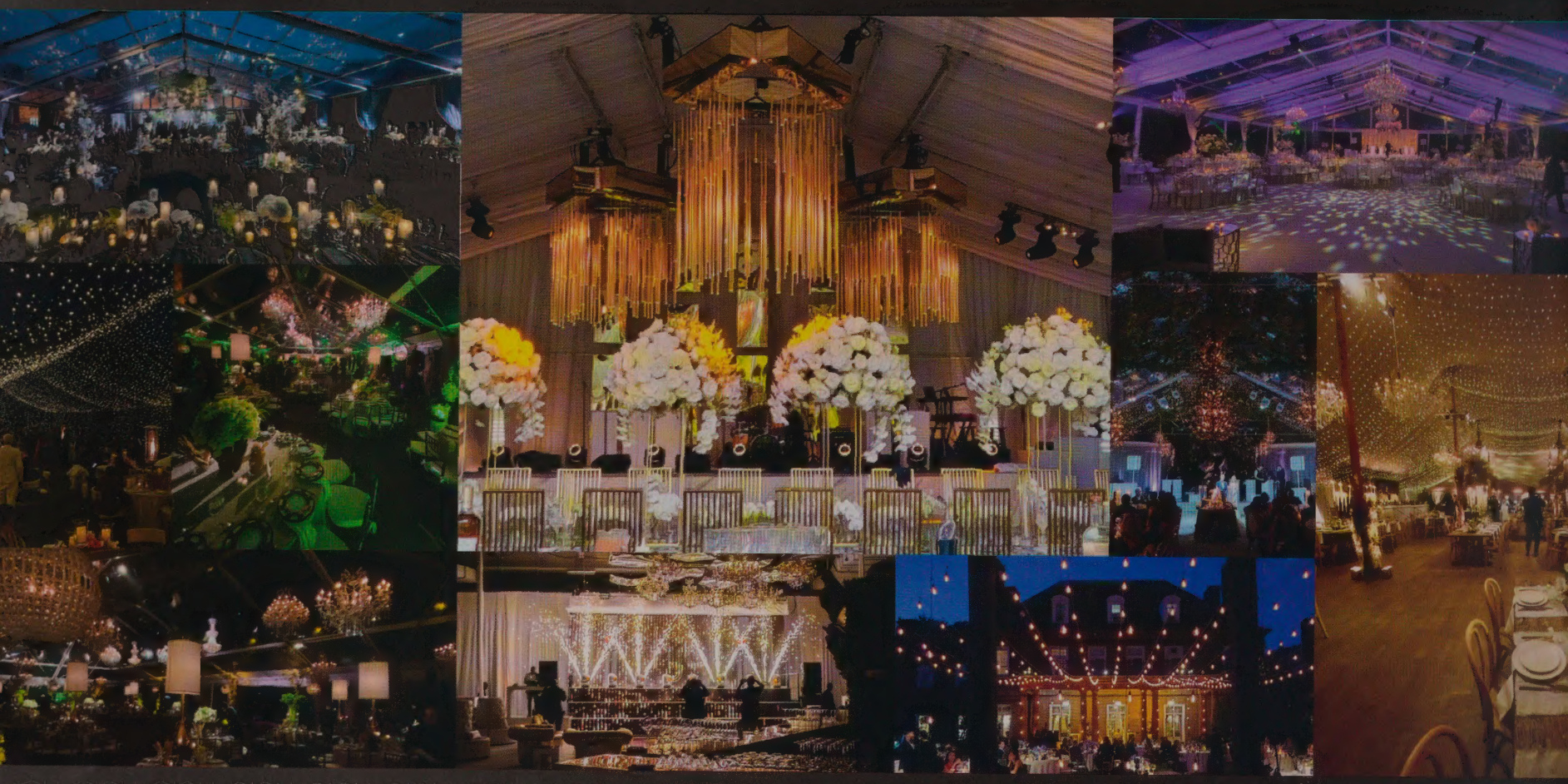

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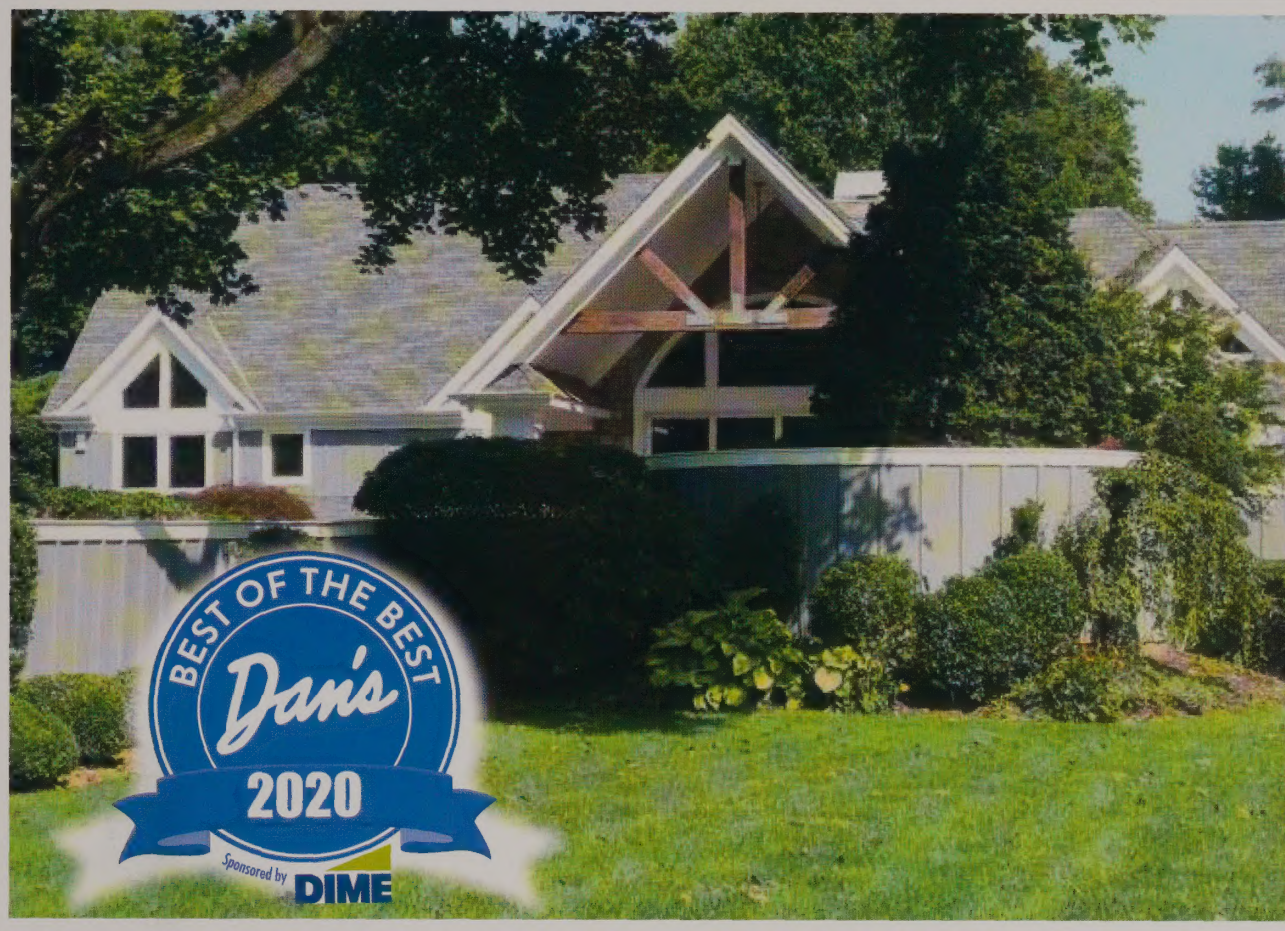

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